

# BARRE GAZETTE

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## Barre selectmen opt to keep quorum at 50

By Ellenor Downer  
Staff Writer

BARRE – Moderator Joshua Benoit and town clerk Ellen Glidden discussed a quorum reduction with selectmen at the Monday night meeting.

Benoit said that legislation to lower the town meeting quorum due to COVID-19 gives the authority to do so with the moderator and board of selectmen. The current quorum for town meeting is 50.

The legislation allows for up to a ten percent reduction. The town clerk said she believed the quorum number should not go lower than 25. The moderator recommended reducing the quorum to 25. He said he felt that the town would get a quorum for the June 30 town meeting, but it would prevent making calls to meet a quorum or postponing the meeting if it did happen.

Selectman chair Gregory O'Sullivan said he was against reducing the quorum; he believed

the present quorum number was too low. He said residents would be voting a \$12 million budget and more than 50 voter should have a say in the matter. Selectman vice chair Matthew Urban said he was not a fan of reducing the quorum. Selectman Clark said he was okay with leaving the number at 50.

### Town meeting protocol

The moderator and town clerk discussed the protocol for the town meeting, which will be held outside the Quabbin Regional

High School, 800 South St. Police officers will be present to assist with traffic. People attending the meeting should park in the parking lot on the right side of the school by the track and football field. They would walk to the school to get checked in electronically following spacing guidelines. Each voter will receive a packet in a plastic bag that contains a copy of the warrant, voter advisory, pink and yellow index cards to hold up for votes and a mask. They next

would go to a hand sanitizing station before going to a seat. Seats will be placed apart to allow for social distancing. There will be a section for non-voters and one for those people, who for health reasons can't wear a mask or choose not to wear one. A volunteer with a hand held microphone will go to residents that have a question or comment. The volunteer will repeat the comment or question

See BARRE, page 5

## Selectmen review FY 21 budget items

By Ellenor Downer  
Staff Writer

OAKHAM – Selectmen discussed the proposed finance committee budget. Items mentioned included legal fees, town hall maintenance and Wachusett Greenways.

Selectman chair Bradford Taylor said that he would like to restore \$5,000 to the selectmen's legal fund. He said legal expenses might be needed with the Maple Street project. Selectman vice-chair Lucy Tessnau said the finance committee took away the town hall maintenance fund and the hall needed repairs. She said it used to be \$6,000, then the amount lowered to \$4,000 last year. The finance committee also removed the \$1,000 for maintenance of the Wachusett Greenways trail in Oakham. Selectmen had approved the request.

### COVID-19 update

Aaron Langois, public health nurse, said the COVID-19 case number in town was now seven. He said the Department of Public Health was recommending that anyone that attended a large gathering get tested for COVID-19 at a testing center. He said phase 2 was ongoing.

### Use of common

Selectmen approved the use of the town common by the Council on Aging for every Saturday in August except Aug. 15 for senior activities. Selectmen Tessnau asked Langois about guidelines for the holding activities for seniors on the town common during the month of August. He said participants must maintain six feet distancing and not share equipment unless it was cleaned between uses.

### Spectrum email

Selectman Tessnau said she responded to an email that Spectrum sent to customers about the wonderful service they were providing during the pandemic. In her email, she said that was not the case in Oakham as all didn't have cable access. She also mentioned that the town's local channel had not been working for two years and Spectrum despite requests still had not fixed it. She got a reply and the name of a person to contact.

See OAKHAM, page 5

## Parents respond to school survey

By Ellenor Downer  
Staff Writer

BARRE – Quabbin Regional School District (QRSD) Superintendent Dr. Sheila Muir presented to the school committee the results of a survey sent to parents and third to twelfth grade students.

She said 555 parents returned the survey and their responses were evenly distributed among kindergarten and eighth grade with high school combined as one group. She said 48 percent of parents said the children were spending 2 to 3 hours per day on remote learning. Thirty percent of the students in third to 12 grades reported to 2 to 3 hours. The end of the survey had a section for written comments and there were over 1,000 responses. Superintendent Muir said 29 percent of parents found parent oversight difficult and students felt there were too many assignments. Another parent concern listed was the need to acquire a printer. Some requested more virtual sessions with teachers.

The school district recently sent out a second survey to parents about what kind of learning they expected for their children in the fall, in person, remote or a combination of both. The superintendent encouraged parents not to make a decision yet on whether to send their child to the school in the fall.

### Meal distribution

Director of administrative services Cheryl Duval said the school was still distributing food at three sites, Hardwick Elementary, the Quabbin Regional Middle High School and Hubbardston Center School. She said at last Thursday committee meeting the district received a waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and would be able to offer summer meals at all three sites. Normally, only schools with 50 percent or higher students enrolled in free or reduced lunches could serve summer meals. The only school in the district that fit the original guidelines was the Hardwick Elementary School.

### Teacher advisory

Evann Barringer representing the teacher advisory said the district needed to look at its curriculum and training teachers to include social justice and racism issues. He said it was challenging for a community like Quabbin's that was not diverse. He suggested to possibly offer an elective on civil rights. QRSD School committee member Dr. Richard Allen said it would be a topic at the policy and review subcommittee and invited Barringer and the full school committee to attend.

### School committee votes

The school committee voted to use the remaining balance in FY

See QRSD COMMITTEE, page 6

## NBHS seniors graduate



Turley Publications correspondent photo by Sloane M. Perron

North Brookfield High School seniors process single file for their graduation last Friday evening at the school.



NBHS Class of 2020 members Nathan Norrie, Salutatorian, took the stage with his brother Alec Norrie, valedictorian, during their graduation last Friday.

## Ceremony held outside

By Sloane M. Perron  
Staff writer

NORTH BROOKFIELD – On June 12, North Brookfield High School celebrated their graduating seniors in a creative ceremony, which was necessary due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The graduation ceremony took place outside while family members were asked to stay in their vehicles throughout the event.

Cars were decorated in the school colors with balloons and horns filled the air as the community came together to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2020. Over 40 students graduated this year and the speeches from students and teachers

reflected the bittersweet yet hopeful nature of graduating during a pandemic.

After Principal Jason Hynek gave his welcome speech, Class President of 2020 Hannah Schultz took the stage. She addressed her fellow students by saying, "We have all dreamed of this day and it is not how we pictured it, but it is one that we will remember." Shultz spoke about being a member of a generation that grew up in the period after 9/11 and now graduated during an international and unprecedented pandemic. "This is the moment we have been waiting for, and nothing, not even a pandemic, could take that away," she said.

Being from a small town, most

See NBHS GRADUATES, page 8

## Barre election set for June 23

By Ellenor Downer  
Staff Writer

BARRE – The annual town election will be held Tuesday, June 23. Selectmen rescheduled the election from Monday, April 6 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The polls in precinct one (Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road) and precinct 2 (Barre Post 2, 450 South Barre Road, will be open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In response to the State of Emergency and concerns about COVID-19 and its implications on election administration, the Governor signed a law authorizing the board of selectmen to vote to postpone the local election. At its meeting on April 21, the Barre Board of Selectmen voted to postpone the election to Tuesday, June 23. There are two contests on the ballot – a three-year term on the board of health and a five-year term on the planning board. Candidates for one position on the board of health include Karen Keegan, 168 Main St., South Barre and Anthony F. Mobilio, 414 North Brookfield Road,

Barre. Candidates for the one position on the planning board for a five-year term are Elisha S. Musgraves, 920 Williamsville Road and Ralph Hollowell Rogers III, 549 Springhill Road.

All other candidates on the ballot are unopposed. They include Joshua E. Smith, 80 Pleasant St., candidate for re-election to a one-year term as moderator; Gregory P. O'Sullivan, 27 School St. N., candidate for re-election to a three-year term on the board of selectmen and Michael G. Landry, 463 West St., candidate for re-election to a three-year term on the board of assessors. Other unopposed candidates are John J. Pimental, Jr., 785 Williamsville Road, candidate for re-election to a three-year term as water commissioner; Joseph A. Rogowski, 45 School St. N., candidate for re-election to a three-year term as sewer commissioner; Suzanne M. Person, 951 Wauwinet Road, candidate for re-election to a five-year term on the Barre Housing Authority; Lawrence F. Marshall, 840 Pleasant St., candidate for

re-election to a three-year term as Felton Field Commissioner and Justin C. Pollard, 291 Loring Road, for a one-year term as Felton Field Commissioner. Voters elect two library trustees for three-year terms. Dona L. Lapati, 30 Dana Road – 5 Varney Lane and Susan C. Twarog, 1007 Spring Hill Road, both candidates for re-election.

Other positions are Elisha S. Musgraves, 920 Williamsville Road, for a one-year term as planning board associate member; Susan E. LaRose, 196 Mechanic St., for a two-year term on the planning board and David H. Marsh, 9 Butterworth Road, candidate for re-election, to a three-year term as Quabbin Regional School Committee member.

Town clerk Ellen Glidden said notice of the postponed election, sample ballot, new law and rescheduled election date has been posted on the town website www.townofbarre.com as well as the towns Facebook page. A letter notifying residents of the change along with applications

See ELECTION, page 6

## Irises show their splendor



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

These irises add some color to the garden by the side of the Oakham Congregational Church.





News of the Towns



**Round Town**  
*Ellenor Downer*  
413-967-3505

Tax bills due  
June 29

Barre collector Sharon Ashleigh reminds all tax-payers, according to the adoption by the Barre Board of Selectmen of State Bill H4617, tax bills with a due date after March 10, but paid before June 30 will have interest and fees waived. To avoid interest and fees, people should make sure all payments are dropped to the collector's office by 4 p.m. Monday, June 29. Residents may pay online using a credit or debit card (fees apply), ACH transaction online, bank check/money order or cash via USPS mail or by dropping payment in the lockbox located outside the Henry Woods Building. Per state guidelines, the collector's office is still closed to the public at this time.

**Farmers' market**  
 The Barre Farmers' Market is Saturdays at 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the Barre Common. The farmers' market runs from May to October.

**Town election June 23**  
 The Barre Board of Selectmen voted to hold the annual town election Tuesday, June 23 at its April 21 meeting. Both precincts will be open and polling hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**QRSD meal distribution days**  
 The Quabbin Regional School District Food Service Department is distributing breakfast and lunch for all students in the district, age 18 and under. People do not have to attend a Quabbin school to participate. Distribution takes place every Monday, Wednesday and Friday while school is closed. Grab and Go breakfast and lunch will be distributed from 7 to 10 a.m. at the Hardwick Elementary School and the Quabbin Middle and High School. If parents have difficulty with transportation for food pickup, they may contact the Central Office at 978-355-4668 or email schoolmeals@qrds.org.

**SNAP assistance**  
 Anyone recently laid off due to the coronavirus may call Eileen Clarkson, HS-BCP, CDP, MS, MPA, director of the Barre Senior Center at 774-764-8702 for assistance in applying for the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Farmers' market tradition continues in Barre



Lynn Hartman of Hartman's Herb Farm in Barre sells flowers, vegetable flats and of course, herbs at the weekly Farmers' Market.



Bessie Difley, Barre's oldest citizen at 105, shops at the Barre Farmers' Market last Saturday. In fact, she attends the market every Saturday. The market is held every Saturday on the common from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Turley Publications  
 Courtesy Photos

**Hubbardston**  
*Ellenor Downer*  
edowner@turley.com



Summer concerts  
begin July 9

Concerts return for the summer on the Oakham Common from 6:30-8 p.m. The first concert featuring Nashville Blue will be held Thursday, July 9. Other concerts are The Big Random July 23, Beatles for Sale Aug. 6 and The Otters Aug. 20. People may bring a chair or blanket.

**COA summer cookout**  
 Although the Oakham Senior Center has been closed, the Oakham Column of Aging (COA) has been quite busy during these past months working for the seniors and planning for the future. Recently the COA set up a partnership with the Oakham Fire Department and will offer the annual summer cook-out Saturday, July 11 from 11:45 a.m. to 12:35 p.m. In keeping with the coronavirus protocols, all meals will be ordered in advance, personally prepared by the COA and professionally grilled by the fire department, packaged in a take-out containers and then will be delivered by senior center volunteers to all customers. The meals will be left by the entry doors of the homes for contactless deliveries between 11:45 a.m. and 12:35 p.m. Drivers and cooks will be wearing masks and gloves. People should plan to be at home when their meal arrives. This program has been approved by the board of health. The menu will consist of hot dog, hamburger, or cheeseburger, rolls, potato salad or macaroni salad, a vegetable, juice box, small bag of chips, a slice of watermelon and a dessert. There is no charge for this delicious take out lunch. To place an order, call Lucy at 508-882-3358 or Pauline at 508-882-5215 on or before July 3 and be sure to give choice of meat and salad. There is no charge for the lunch.

**Annual town meetings**  
 The annual town meeting will be held Tuesday, June 30 at 7 p.m. at the municipal building, Barre Road. A special town meeting will be held at 6:45 p.m. prior to the annual town meeting at 7 p.m.

**Church services**  
 Sunday, June 21 the Oakham Congregational Church will hold its 10 a.m. worship service. Weather permitting it will be held outside on the common. People should bring their own chair and wear a mask. If it rains, services will be inside the church. People will be directed to an entrance and will practice social distancing in the sanctuary.

**Volunteers**  
 The board of selectmen currently seeks volunteers to serve on the board of health and finance committee. People interested should contact the Board of Selectmen's Office at 508-882-5549, extension 300 or email ashley.sturges@oakham-ma.gov.

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**STM set for June 24**  
**ATM postponed to later date**

NEW BRAINTREE – There will be a Special Town Meeting Wednesday, June 24 at 7 p.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, 20 Memorial Drive. A special town meeting has a quorum of 20. The select board voted to postpone the Annual Town Meeting until a date to be determined.

**Rutland has mandatory water ban**

RUTLAND – Due to the mandate set forth from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Rutland Department of Public Works (DPW) has imposed a mandatory water ban effective immediately through Sept. 30. Outside watering is only allowed between the hours of 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. People may call the DPW at 508-886-4105 or go to townofrutland.org.



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**Corrections policy**

The Barre Gazette will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a correction, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at barre-news@turley.com or call 978-355-4000. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.



# News of the Towns

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

*Note: All meetings are closed to the public and will be held remotely.*

### BARRE

Sewer Commission – June 18 at 7 p.m.  
Annual Town Election – June 23 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Conservation Committee – June 23 at 7 p.m.  
Cemetery Commission – June 25 at 11 a.m.  
Finance Committee – June 25 at 6:30 p.m.  
Annual Town Meeting – June 30 at 6:30 p.m.  
Council on Aging – July 1 at 1 p.m.  
Barre Housing Authority – July 2 at 3 p.m.  
Historical Commission – July 6 at 7 p.m.  
Felton Field Commission – July 7 at 6:30 p.m.  
Planning Board – July 7 at 7 p.m.  
Library Trustees – July 8 at 7 p.m.  
Board of Health – July 13 at 5 p.m.  
Water Commission – July 13 at 6:30 p.m.  
DPW Commission – July 13 at 7 p.m.  
Cable Advisory Committee – Aug. 11 at 7 p.m.

### HARDWICK

Board of Selectmen – June 22, July 6 and July 20 at 6:30 p.m.  
Planning Board – June 23 at 6:30 p.m.  
Board of Health – July 2 at 6:30 p.m.  
Paige Library Trustees – July 2 at 7 p.m.  
Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioners – July 6 at 6:30 p.m. and July 13 at 5:30 p.m.  
Recycling Commission – July 7 at 6:30 p.m.  
Council on Aging – July 9 at 9:30 a.m.  
Gilbertville Public Library – July 10 at 4 p.m.  
Wheelwright Water District – July 13 at 7 p.m.

### HUBBARDSTON

Annual Town Meeting – June 23 at 6 p.m. at Curtis Recreation Field  
Annual Town Election – June 30 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Open Space Committee – June 30 and July 28 at 7 p.m.  
Planning Board – July 1 at 6:30 p.m.  
Conservation Commission – July 7 at 7 p.m.

### NEW BRAintree

Special Town Meeting – June 24 at 7 p.m.  
Annual Town Meeting date to be determined

### PETERSHAM

Board of Health – June 18 and July 2 at 7 p.m.  
Petersham Historic District – June 18 at 7 p.m.  
Planning Board – June 25 at 7 p.m.  
Open Space and Recreation Committee – July 7 at 6:30 p.m.  
Conservation Commission – July 7 at 7:30 p.m.  
Cemetery Commission – July 9 at 7 p.m.  
Nichewaug Inn and Academy Committee 2020 – July 13 at 6:30 p.m.  
Council on Aging – Aug. 10 at 10 a.m.

### RUTLAND

Library Board of Trustees – June 18 at 7 p.m.  
Annual Town Election – June 22 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Planning Board Hearing – June 23 at 9:24 p.m.  
Annual Town Meeting – June 27 at 4 p.m.

## Barre Dining Center

BARRE — Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of June 22.

Meal sites are closed and there are only Meals on Wheels deliveries.

Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MON. – Beef with peppers and onions, steak cut potato wedges, glazed carrots, melon, sandwich roll

TUES. – Hot dog, baked beans, coleslaw, fresh fruit, hot dog bun

WED. – Stuffed pepper casserole, mashed potatoes, green beans, Lorna Doones, marble rye bread

THURS. – Ranch chicken, vegetable rice pilaf, stewed tomatoes, birthday cake, diet = half piece, pumpernickel bread

FRI. – Braised beef, gemelli pasta, broccoli, pears, Italian brad

\*Diabetic friendly dessert

\*\*Higher sodium entree

Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

## Colonel Isaac Barre Gift Shop

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## NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

## Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

**Note: Do to an error, there was no “Where is this?” photo in last week’s edition. This week’s mystery photo is from Rutland. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, June 22. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week’s edition. Dick Clark, Stephen Craven and Cynthia Mallett correctly identified the Petersham photo. It was the Post Office.**

## Postponements and cancellations due to the coronavirus pandemic

MOC CFCE temporarily suspended playgroups and other family events until at least through June. Governor Baker declared a state of emergency hoping to contain the spread of the coronavirus across the Commonwealth. The Parent Child Plus program will continue to operate with your Early Learning Specialist continuing to visit with enrolled.

Massachusetts 4-H programs, activities and club meeting are cancelled until further notice. This includes advisory councils, fair boards, horse advisories and events. Groups are allowed to meet virtually.

Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., Hubbardston is closed until at least through June. The time for egg delivery on Fridays changed to 10 a.m. to noon. There will be no fresh produce until further notice. People may call the senior center at 978-928-1400, extension 211 with any questions.

All Barre Town Buildings will be closed at least until at least through June to the public, except by appointment and include the Henry Woods Building, Woods Memorial Library, the Council on Aging (senior center), old Town Hall, the public safety building, fire stations and DPW. Please call an office before visiting in many

cases staff is able to assist over the phone or by mail. Meals on Wheels program and wellness checks for seniors will continue.

The town of Hubbardston is closing all town buildings to the public until at least through June. Offices will continue to provide services of the government to residents. The closure will result in the delivery of services remotely. All public safety operations will continue.

The Grandview Tenants Association has changed their annual raffle and bazaar from the beginning of June to the beginning of October this year.

Because the safety of auxiliary members is the major concern, all American Legion Post 2 Auxiliary functions have been cancelled until further notice. Members will be kept informed as to when meetings will resume.

Wachusett Greenways events are cancelled through June 30. During this time the portable restrooms are removed from the Mass Central Rail Trail to protect from spreading the virus. Please greet others on the trail with a smile or wave as you pass at a good distance. Do not pass closely or draw near to people or pets on the trail.

Massachusetts Wildlife Management Areas are open,

fishing is open and trout stocking will continue.

Bay State Equine Rescue (BSER) president Susan Sheridan announced the cancellation of the 5K Run Like the Dickens slated for July 12, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Historically, the race has been very well attended, but the safety and well-being of the runners, supporters and volunteers is the top priority. The race is held at Old Sturbridge Village.

Holden Days scheduled for Aug. 22 has been cancelled. It will return next year Aug. 28, 2021.

Sterling Fair scheduled for Sept. 11-13 has been cancelled. It will return in 2021.

1794 Meetinghouse in New Salem is sad to report that their entire summer season has been canceled due to COVID-19, and the need for continued care and social distancing.

Northampton Community Music Center (NCMC) has made the decision to cancel or postpone all June and July programming. The safety of the community is the first priority at this time. NCMC regrets not being able to provide a program experience for its students and believes it is imperative to limit the transmission of COVID-19 in the community.

## Pathfinder refunds \$100,000 to towns

PALMER – In a continuing effort to assist member towns with current and future budget concerns, the Pathfinder Regional School Committee approved two measures last week that should give the towns a bit of good news. At its June 10 meeting, members voted unanimously for Business Manager Greg Falcone’s recommendation to return \$100,000 of fiscal 2020 funds to the towns in the form of a check for their proportional share: Belchertown \$18,493; Granby \$3,767; Hardwick \$4,795; Monson \$13,186; New Braintree \$1,027; Oakham

\$2,568; Palmer \$27,397; Ware \$19,349; and Warren \$9,418.

“While each town’s refund was relatively small, every dollar counts in these uncertain times,” said Pathfinder Superintendent Gerald Paist. He also stated that the School Committee hoped to create a feeling of good will along with the dollars.

In other related business, the committee also unanimously approved a recommendation by Falcone to reduce the fiscal 2021 budget to a zero percent increase. The original increase was 1.8%. Revised assessments forwarded to towns this week

were Belchertown \$1,328,386; Granby \$324,887; Hardwick \$298,817; Monson \$1,056,472; New Braintree \$83,330; Oakham \$212,339; Palmer \$1,748,045; Ware \$1,101,679; Warren \$505,612. Several items make up a town’s assessment, but the major component is the number of students from that town at Pathfinder.

“We are still weeks away from knowing how much state aid Pathfinder will receive, but we anticipate a significant reduction,” Paist said. “That may cause us to revise the assessments again.”

## Oakham

Ellenor Downer

edowner@turley.com



## ATM set for June 23

The Hubbardston Annual Town Meeting (ATM) will be held outside Tuesday, June 23 at 6 p.m. at Curtis Recreation Field. Town officials are currently working to make town meeting as safe and efficient as possible. Residents will be spaced six feet apart or more on the field and will be required to wear a face-mask. All aspects of town meeting will continue to include the ability to safely speak about issues and ask questions.

### Absentee ballots are now available

The town clerk announces that absentee ballots for the annual town election scheduled for Tuesday, June 30 are available. The poll will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and is located at the Hubbardston Center School. The new voting machine will be in operation. Due to COVID-19 No-excuse early voting by mail is allowed for all local elections being held on or before Aug. 1, 2020. Voters that would like to request an absentee ballot may download a form on the town website. The completed form can be mailed to 7 Main Street #12 or they may drop the form in the secure drop box located outside the library basement offices. Ballots must be requested no later than noon Monday, June 29 and must be received in office no later than 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 30 to be counted. If people have additional questions or concerns regarding absentee ballots, they may contact the Town Clerks office directly by email: tclerk@hubbardstonma.us or by phone: 978-928-1400, extension 202.

### Library curbside pickup

The Hubbardston Public Library, 7 Main St., will begin curbside pickup Monday, June 15. Only Hubbardston Public Library items are available for lending. People may check out the library website at www.hubbardstonpubliclibrary.org or the Hubbardston Public Library Facebook page for more information.

### SHINE counselor

SHINE Medicare counseling with Glen Gregory will be available by scheduling an appointment with the Hubbardston Senior Center by calling 978-928-1400, extension 211. The counseling will be conducted by phone until further notice.

### Egg delivery time

Hubbardston Senior Center, 7A Main St., Hubbardston is closed for the time being. The time for egg delivery on Fridays changed to 10 a.m. to noon. There will be no fresh produce until further notice. People may call the senior center at 978-928-1400, extension 211 with any questions.

## Nature club to hold bird and nature walk

HARDWICK – The Ware River Nature Club will hold a bird and nature walk on the first day of summer, Saturday, June 20 from 8 a.m. to noon in Hardwick at a location to be announced. Rain date is Sunday, June 21. Leader is Wendy Howes.

The town of Hardwick is fortunate to have a number of public hiking areas that provide ample social distancing space for small groups. The town is also home to myriad bird species that are now nesting and fledging young, as well as a variety of wildflowers and plenty of butterflies and dragonflies. Nature-watching opportunities abound, even on a short walk. Location of this field trip will be based upon interests and preferences of participants and availability of parking. Number of participants will be limited. People may contact warerivernatureclub@yahoo.com to sign up. People should indicate your primary nature interest, walking restrictions, if any, and any concerns about health guidelines.

*Places to go...  
Things to do...*

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We wish everyone good health and

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# Opinion

## Guest Column

### ‘Hello, dear’

Remembering Audrey Carter Stevens  
April 13, 1934 – June 3, 2020

By Lester W. Paquin

That phrase (“Hello, dear”), spoken in a voice tinged with spice and electing not to pronounce the “r,” a habit of many New Englanders, was how anyone lucky enough to enjoy the acquaintance and company of Audrey Carter Stevens was greeted. And Audrey was indeed of this special place in our national fabric. She embodied all that was unique and special about New England in general and Massachusetts in particular. Her indomitable spirit and lively sense of what was truly important were constants of her personality and behavior.

You never had to wonder where Audrey stood with regard to any person, place or thing. She would tell you in no uncertain terms how things were and how they should be. She did not suffer fools gladly; but she always stood ready, willing and able to lend her voice, determination and considerable strength to any person, cause or creature she believed to be in need of her assistance and influence.

If she was your friend and you hers, there was no greater reward in the world than to share that bond with her.

Audrey did not stand by and wait for others to lead the way. She assumed that responsibility herself, often in a manner that allowed for others to take the credit for her achievements. She didn’t mind; it was more important to get the job done than to debate responsibility.

She came from “good stock,” as the saying goes; her parents, Donald and Thelma (Littlefield) Carter were the very epitome of all that is honorable and characteristic of New England natives. Honest, hard-working, gracious and committed to their region and their community, the Carters were among Barre’s finest families and raised their daughter to both appreciate and “give back” to her hometown and the people in it.

And Audrey did so in earnest, beginning with the love and attention she lavished on her family farm. As time passed, that devotion found room for a husband and family that remained a focus of her attention for the rest of her life.

And animals. Audrey loved animals, seemingly without regard for size or species. Her pets went beyond her beloved dogs to include everything from chickens and cows to woodchucks and chipmunks. She even raised a monkey. And her pet crow, Caw, was a fixture in Barre often causing Audrey or Thelma to have to drive down to Barre Common to retrieve him, where he had flown to loiter in front of local businesses, hoping for a treat from a friend or stranger. He would ride proudly home, perched on a shoulder, only to fly downtown the next day to repeat his visits.

Audrey’s love of horses was a central theme in her life. She taught generations of Barre youth to ride and was an active member of the Barre Riding and Driving Club, under the tutelage of Jennie Blaisdell and Helen Connington. She also found time to offer her talents to 4H and the Girls Scouts.

Audrey’s spare time, what little there was of it, was occupied by sewing, quilting, gardening, making tiny moccasins, hunting, skiing, walking long distances with her dogs and traveling. The recounting of her trip to China with her cousin Jean, a New Hampshire state legislator, was the highlight of many reminiscences.

In Barre, Audrey’s influence is deep and everlasting. For many years, she was a member and Director of the Barre Library Association, where she also served as curator of the library’s Founders Museum. Her knowledge of and passion for natural history was a perfect fit for the library’s collections and her empathy and compassion for Native Americans and her vast knowledge of their culture served the library in good stead at a time when such understanding was both welcome and useful.

Audrey was a long-serving chairperson of the Barre Historical Commission, where she championed the preservation of stone walls and ancient trees. Her anecdotal knowledge of people, places and things in town were consequential contributions to the book of Barre’s history.

In keeping with her abiding interest in history, perhaps Audrey’s greatest legacy in Barre came at its historical society. She was a director there for many years, and she took her responsibility to that institution seriously. Audrey tended the gardens, cleaned the buildings, organized the society’s files and postcard collection, curated exhibits and diligently and effectively served on the committee that conserved the 1859 Abbot-Downing stage-coach.

All life was precious to Audrey, which she proved time and again for 20 years as an EMT with the Barre Emergency and Rescue Squad. This involvement also led to an interest and proficiency in herbology and homeopathy.

Audrey was slight of stature yet towering in respect and influence. Her laughter was distinctive and infectious. She could be stubborn and feisty, holding her ground when she knew she was right. She could be an invaluable ally or a formidable foe, either way, you always knew where you stood with her. Audrey’s forthright honesty and unfailing support for those people and causes she believed in will not be forgotten.

Her favorite vegetable was chocolate and her favorite condiment was sugar. She admired the Kennedys, the blooms and scents of spring weeds and flowers and the cool dampness of woodlands on horseback. She detested being cold, loved a homemade bowl of soup and was happiest climbing over long-abandoned cellar holes deep in the forest. She worshipped God as she walked his creation, she loved her town dearly and she will be missed and remembered by those who loved, admired and respected her more than words can ever say.

Goodbye, dear.



## In Past Pages

5 years ago (June 18, 2015)

Social worker Debbie Ennis of Barre launched the first session of her new program, Wheels in Motion, at Listening Wellness Center. Ennis’s groundbreaking initiative, sponsored by Baystate Mary Lane Hospital, Saint Vincent’s Hospital, the Barre Recreation Commission and the Listening Wellness Center, provides local youth with opportunities to build their social skills, increase their physical fitness, and explore healthy eating habits. Ennis reports that she spent part of nearly every day this spring preparing for the program, with efforts ranging from outreach to local doctors to coordinating donated bicycles from Worcester Earn-a-Bike. All of her hard work finally paid off when a group of 16 participants including children ages 7-17 and their parents, gathered on the lawn at Listening for the first day of classes. With a wide range of ages and an even wider range of bicycling abilities (more than half the group had little or no previous experience), it was hard to imagine how Ennis would engage the entire group for two hours. With the help of Barre Police Officer Tim Ury, along with Listening yoga instructor Elizabeth Garrett of Barre and Laura Milko of Hubbardston, Ennis had the entire group riding around the parking lot and down Listening’s sloping lawn by the end of the session.

Many communities bemoan the idea that young people are not interested in local history. That thinking does not apply in at least one case in the Quabbin Reservoir region. Petersham and the Quabbin Regional High School (QRHS) have one students that is very interested in local history, Jared Bonenfant. Bonenfant, an honors student at QRHS, who just graduated Summa Cum Laude and as a National Honor Society graduate and recipient of the President’s Award for Educational Excellence, decided to focus his senior Capstone thesis on the Nichevaug section of Petersham where his family has lived for several generations. The Petersham Historical Society will host Bonenfant for a special public program at the Petersham Memorial Library entitled, “The Nichevaug Section of Petersham: A History of Nichevaug’s Forgotten Past.” Bonenfant’s family has been central to Nichevaug village for many generations. His great-grandparents, Bert and Florence Smith were residents, who kept impeccable notes, family photographs and archives of the region, which he used as first-hand resources for his work. Objects and art by Bert and Florence Smith are in the collection of the Petersham Historical Society.

Quabbin Area Little League Champions this year was the CW Angell team, with players from Hardwick and Petersham. Celebrating after a fantastic season were players Kenny Stogitis, Kyle Nastasi, Nicholas Warburton, Charlie Chinian, Charlie Barnes, Jack Mogle, Nathaniel White, Nathan Danielson, Marc St.

### Look Back - Minor League Baseball - 1989



Turley Publications File Photo

Barre’s minor league team, R.T. Curtis, Inc., front row from left are, Joe Currier, Julie Brewer, Carissa Ducharme, Erich Richards, Seth Wytrwal and Beth Petersen. Second row (from left): David Marcinowski, Derek Kuprycz, Matthew Winslow, Amanda Ducharme, Stephanie Coppolino, Katie Inzerillo and Katie Sjoberg. Third row (from left): Amanda Currier and Coach Diane Inzerillo.

Germain, Blake Milton, Connor Geary and Will Barnes. Coaches were Chris Barnes and Jed Geary.

10 years ago (June 24, 2010)

Barre Riding and Driving Club held its Fun Show at Felton Field, Old Coldbrook Road. Thirty riders and a pair of Fjord driving horse participated in this year’s annual event. Everyone had a great time with the “rule free” (helmets required), “make it up as you go” day. Some of the show highlights were the headline class with three year old Elizabeth in pink cowgirl boots, a pairs class with sisters Bonnie Wilbur and Shelly Chase riding bareback, a costume class with a trio of unicorns, surgical nurse, Indian pony and a Red Sox player and the versatility class with “live” ducks, umbrella and beach chair, pool noodles and giant ball. This year, in addition to riders, there was a pair of Fjords that were driven through the course. Rob Lynds announced for the fun show. Riders and their families enjoyed a pizza lunch that was provided by the club. Everyone went home with a blue ribbon. In lieu of class fees, every rider was asked to bring a nonperishable food item that was donated to the Barre Food Pantry. The club was able to donate over 100 items.

Central Massachusetts Emergency Systems Corporation presented Sue Fullam of Barre with the EMS Special Service Award. This award was presented for outstanding dedication and commitment to the Central Massachusetts region. She recently retired from the Barre Emergency and Rescue Squad after 31 years of service.

Rebecca and Fred Hamel opened a new shop in Barre recently. The store, Col. Isaac Barre’s Gifts and

Collectibles, is warm and attractive with a wide collection of affordable items for every taste. The Hamel’s goal was to create a space that is inviting, a place where they hope people will linger and browse, read a book or chat about local history and a place with something for every interest. The Hamels have lived in Barre for 15 years, in a home that was built in 1870. Rebecca, originally from New York, would visit Fred in Worcester before their marriage. She admired many of the older homes in the area and discovered the house they now own through one of the real estate brochures she would pick up each time she visited. Fred Hamel is a history teacher at Burncoat High School in Worcester. Rebecca is a nurse, who has always been interested in local history. She has been an active member of the Barre Historical Society. Fred had been asked by the society to present a program on Col. Isaac Barre. When it came time to name the store, they thought of Col. Barre and, as Rebecca recalls, “A light bulb came on.” They thought it fitting that the store be named after the founder of Barre.

25 years ago (June 22, 1995)

On June 28, Stetson School, a residential program for adolescent boys located on South Street in Barre since 1899, will dedicate a new six-bed residential unit in memory of former Police Chief Michael J. Ryder. It is the custom of Stetson School to name residences in honor of people who have had a meaningful connection to the program. As plans for the new residential unit were developed, it was clear to the board of directors that the news residential unit be named in the memory of such an outstanding individual and friend to the school as Chief Ryder.

Leicester High School celebrated its athletic tradition at an annual dinner honoring five alumni with entry into the school’s Athletic Hall of Fame. One of those selected was Donald Albro, a member of Leicester High’s class of 1960, now

## Letters to The Editor

### Zoom meeting had wrong access number

I have a great fear for the town of Barre that even with the pandemic, civil unrest and fractured government we will not get a voice and stand. We will give ourselves excuses as to why to do nothing, and make that acceptable. Barre has systemic problems that need to be addressed. Stand or perish, that is the question.

Fellow citizens I have been standing and advocating for open source governance in Barre and for the Commonwealth for months and getting stone-walled in my endeavors with the town. It is my belief that we must pull together collectively to bring about change toward a more favorable government for ourselves. An informed citizenry, directed of agency, participatory in our own governance through open sourcing everything.

I understood that I would be on the agenda for the select meeting Monday, June 15 addressing how the selectmen were ineffective at their charge and how citizenry might be helpful but I got cut from agenda. The reason given was that I had not made written disclosure to the town of my intention. Had that been disclosed I most certainly would have obliged. Nonetheless this is what ensued; Barre ran an illegal meeting. The Zoom access number posted was incorrect and then corrected Monday by administrator Heather Monroe, within hours of the meeting commencing. Effectively changing venue. Then when I called the error into question by a call of ‘point of order’ as a procedural issue I was silenced by muting me off Zoom. The only response I got was from Heather who said she had emailed two citizens who normally attend to correct the issue. What about the rest of the citizens? What about rule of law? Then during the meeting entry into the Zoom call was closed by Heather. Why? Further stopping those from getting into the meeting. For me that is not participatory government and a violation of open meeting law. Also I believe worthy of oversight by the Commonwealth’s Attorney General Office. Compounding things further, all votes taken during that meeting would be void. The meeting in effect was a kangaroo session with no legal basis. Way to go.

Do we come together?

Neil Anders [theosophist@charter.net](mailto:theosophist@charter.net)

Barre

### Candidate supports improved rural healthcare

During the American Revolution, smallpox broke out among the British and colonial armies encamped around Boston. The outbreak spread across North America, leading to almost as many deaths as the war itself. Nonetheless, most Americans were afraid to practice inoculation, whereby one made a small incision in the arm to transmit a mild form of the illness and promote immunity, the forerunner of today’s vaccination.

An exception to this widespread attitude was the small village of North Brookfield, which voted in September 1776 to create a hospital to inoculate patients and support their recovery. Over the coming years, the town bought several houses where doctors from Brookfield and West Brookfield inoculated patients from all over the region, every one of whom survived. North Brookfield’s small-pox hospitals were ahead of their time and made as great a contribution to the new country’s success as the town’s soldiers did.

It is bitterly ironic, then, that small towns like those in west-central Massachusetts have such constricted and diminishing access to quality healthcare today. Our residents have to travel to Worcester, Southbridge or places with no public transit; many of our nearest hospitals have closed, such as Worcester City Hospital, which shuttered in 1991. The lack of mental healthcare has allowed the crises of depression and prescription-drug abuse to run rampant.

Our current pandemic and the perspective of history show that rural towns that have been left by the wayside in the last fifty years ought to be at the forefront of our healthcare system. That is why, if elected as a state representative, I will fight to rebuild our lost hospital capacity and to bring the best medical and mental health care to our rural towns.

Samuel Biagetti

North Brookfield  
Democratic Candidate  
for State Rep.,  
5th Worcester District

### Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005 or via email to [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com). The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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PATRICK H. TURLEY  
CEO

KEITH TURLEY  
President

EDITOR  
Ellenor Downer  
[edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com)

STAFF WRITER

ADVERTISING SALES  
Tim Mara

[tmara@turley.com](mailto:tmara@turley.com)

SPORTS EDITOR  
Greg Scibelli  
[sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com)

SOCIAL MEDIA

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WEB  
[www.barregazette.turley.com](http://www.barregazette.turley.com)

  
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## Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

It was very nice weather most of the week with rain at the beginning. I don't have to water the potted things when it rains during the night. Everything is blooming and growing well. I did have a creature come and eat some of the larger leaf hostas, but I'm not sure if it was a bear or deer. They were very choosy and just ate the larger leafed ones in two areas. They did not go into the hosta bed. One that they ate was called "Big Daddy" and had beautiful big leaves. The stems and roots are still there so hopefully it will still live.

The weigelia, dogwood and deutzia are in full bloom and making the yard smell nice. Most of the rhododendrons blooms are past. I went out to check on Ken's vegetable garden and it is coming along very well. He has it fenced it so the creatures can't get in. He did pick some more rhubarb, but it is very thin. He had a tub around it last year and it grew better. I guess he will have to put it on again and give it more manure.

When I can't think of something to make for a meal or forgot to take out some meat from the freezer I fall back on pancakes or scrambled eggs and toast. Here is a recipe for Swedish Pancakes.

### SWEDISH PANCAKES

1 tablespoon sugar  
1 cup flour  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 eggs

1 cups milk

3 tablespoons butter

Set oven at 375 degrees. Sift together sugar, flour and salt. In a separate bowl, beat the eggs and add the milk, then add this very gradually to the dry ingredients to be sure there are no lumps. Beat with an egg beater. Put the butter in a deep dish pie plate and melt. Be sure pie plate has slanting sides. Pour the mixture into the pie plate over the butter. The butter comes up over the sides and top of the batter. Bake 35 minutes or until sides are golden brown. Serve immediately with maple syrup, sugar or fruit. Makes 4 to 6 servings. Note: This is easier to make than individual pancakes and trying to keep them warm.

### This and That

I worked on some Christmas items this week in the sewing room. I made three snowman bags and two snowman wall hangings. I also worked on some more masks as I had ordered some interesting patterns of fabric from Thousands of Bolts, my favorite fabric supplier. I ordered several Christmas prints and make gift bags from the fat quarters.

I'm still working in the garage sorting out things. I have boxes of sewing supplies that I needed to label and sort out.

I did some weed whacking in the yard and dead headed the iris and petunias. Some areas of the

yard are easier to weed whack than mow so I used that process. The only trouble with my weed whacker is the battery runs out fairly quickly, so I have to charge it frequently. I also had to put in a new roll of string. I was hoping I hadn't forgot how to do it, but it worked fine.

In these trying times, I try to keep in touch with my friends. All seem to be in good health for which I am thankful.

I've learned that no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with. That is something I miss not being able to be with my friends. I've learned that everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile.

My only granddaughter will be graduating from college and hopefully all will go well with her in these trying times. I see where the Salvation Army in Gardner and Rietta Ranch in Hubbardston are opening, but I still don't feel comfortable about going, even with a mask on. Those were two of my favorite places to visit. Hopefully times will get better. I am nervous about all the protests that are going on without people wearing masks and distancing. I am afraid this virus is going to be with us for a long time.

Keep obeying the rules and stay safe. Thanks for being a reader.

## BARRE, continued from page 1

using the microphone, but the person speaking will not use the microphone. Interim town administrator Heather Munroe said the school has a strict policy regarding the use of its restrooms. Only one person would be allowed in at a time and individual must wear a mask.

The moderator said that he would be using the consent agenda format in an effort to quickly conduct town meeting business. He said he would read a group of articles and residents would vote on them as a group without discussion. Anyone that wanted to discuss an article could request a hold. The article would be discussed and voted on separately. Selectmen approved the protocol and will publish it on mytowngovernment and the town website.

### Public comment

Neil Anders during the one minute per person public comment period brought up a point of order. He said he was not sure the June

15 meeting was legal. He said the meeting lacked the level of public participation that the governor mentioned in his emergency order. He said the wrong address was posted for the meeting and it did not get corrected until the day of the meeting when the error was caught. Selectmen O'Sullivan said the governor's order allowed for a private meeting and a written transcript published later.

### Audit discussion

The finance committee went over the audit recommendations with selectmen from the accounting firm Powers and Sullivan, LLC of Wakefield. Points mentioned included receivables reconciliation, submitting Chapter 90 requests sooner, preferably on a quarterly basis and turning in meeting minutes in a timely manner. In regards to the payroll warrant, the accounting firm said all expenditures must be approved and signed before releasing of funds. They also recommended routine risk management assessments and weekly collections of money from departments and daily if the amount

exceeded \$500.

### Revenues

Chair O'Sullivan said he discussed revenues with the treasurer and she said the number was coming in satisfactory. He said it looked like this year would be okay. He said some taxpayers were taking advantage of the moratorium on interest and late fees for real estate and excise taxes. He said taxes must be paid by June 29 to not incur interest and fees. If the bill was paid on June 30, it would incur interest and fees back to the time the bill was originally due. The collector currently has \$414,000 in outstanding real estate taxes and expects to collect about \$214,000.

### Other business

Selectmen approved the police chief spending \$2,600 from his budget for a gun locker. The board also approved the sending of letter signed by the chair to the state requesting deficit spending of COVID-19 costs. The interim town administrator and town accountant estimated deficit spending of \$300,000.

## OAKHAM, continued from page 1

### Fuel bids

Selectman chair Taylor said the town needed to seek bids for fuel. He said he was not happy with the present provider, Peterson Oil. He said the highway department ran out of heating oil twice and diesel

fuel once. The police department also ran out of heating oil once and gas once. Selectmen will contact other fuel providers for quotes.

### Other business

Selectman Donald Haapakoski recommended that Oakham police officers be appointed for three years rather than one year like the police chief and other offi-

cer, Michael Sweet. He said the police secretary should also be on the appointment list. The other board members concurred. Selectmen will vote on the end of year appointments at next week's meeting when they have the revised appointment list.

Selectmen approved the meeting minutes of June 8 as written.

## PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

residing on Elm Street in Barre. A three-sport athlete, Albro was so well-respected by his teammates that he became the first of the school's athletes to ever gain the tri-captaincy in football, basketball and baseball.

The brand new banner for the Petersham Historical Society designed and executed by Elvira Zimmerman, was proudly carried in the Quabbin Park Memorial Day exercises by society president, Delight Haines and past president, Ruth Coolidge. The hemlock branches, symbol of Daniel Shays, tax rebel who ended his fight against the government in Petersham in 1787, can be seen on the banner and were worn on the tricorn hats of Delight and Ruth. The society has received a generous check from the will of the late Eleanor (Griswold) Schmidt of Prescott and Belchertown for carrying out her wishes relative to the banner and its exhibition at the cemetery.

38 years ago (June 23, 1982)

Christine Modzeleski, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Modzeleski of Barre Road, Petersham, has just returned from the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Massachusetts Girls State held at Bridgewater State College. Miss Modzeleski, a junior at Mahar Regional High School, was among more than 250 girls of high scholastic and leadership potential from schools throughout the state to attend this event. She was the delegate chosen by Petersham American Legion Auxiliary Unit 415. Her activities at school have included chorus, variety shows, drama club, track, local and regional science fairs. She is a past worthy advisor of the Barre Rainbow Girls and president of the Congregational Church Youth Group in Petersham. The alternate was Kathleen Mullaney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Mullaney of Barre Road. Both girls hope to attend law school after high school with plans to become a lawyer and a state police officer, respectively.

The Lassie League Mustangs played against Hardwick Monday night, and you could not beat those Mustangs for their enthusiasm, in spite of the 14 to 2 loss. "C'mon Wendy, pitch it there!" "You can do it!"... Wendy Valardi pitched the whole game and she did a great job. "Run Laura! Run!" and move this little lady did. That's Laura Doherty, a miniature powerhouse.

John Paquin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Paquin of South Street, Barre, spent last week attending the 38<sup>th</sup> Boys' State Convention of the American Legion held at Clark University in Worcester. John was the representative of Barre Post No. 2 in District No. 4. He is a junior at Quabbin Regional High School.

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**QRSD COMMITTEE,**  
**continued from page 1**

20 for cost in FY 21. The motion required a 2/3 majority and passed. Director of administrative services said about \$1.39 million in school choice revenues were left in the budget. She said transferring from a number of accounts would help next year's budget. She said if the state reduced Chapter 70 funds in FY21, the money would close the revenue gap that could be about \$1.67 million. The committee authorized the director to make transfers nec-

essary to close FY 20. The committee also authorized the treasurer to borrow in anticipation of funds. This is a yearly vote, but borrowing had not occurred in the last five years.

**FY21 update**

The superintendent said all Quabbin communities have scheduled town meetings for the end of June. She said that she did not think that all the communities would approve the assessments. She expected to be on 1/12 budget as of July 1 and said some of the towns might be on a 1/12 budget as well. The superintendent said

the state expected most regional school districts to be on a 1/12 budget. She said Quabbin was familiar with the process, but a 1/12-budget process was impossible for the long term.

**Modification to school calendar**

The committee voted to modify the school calendar on the recommendation of the superintendent to end the school year on Tuesday, June 23, the 185 day. A professional development day for staff to prepare for school opening in the fall would be held Wednesday, June 24 the originally scheduled

last day of school.

**Other business**

The school committee voted to waive for one time the requirement to pass all academic courses to play sports. The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) already approved the waiver. Dr. Allen voted no.

The committee approved permission for the superintendent and director of administrative services to explore early retirement incentive. Dr. Allen said the most experienced teachers were the best teachers.

**ELECTION,**  
**continued from page 1**

to request a ballot by mail will be mailed to all households. The law authorizes the town to use election materials already prepared so the town will be using the official and absentee ballots used for the April 6, 2020 election. In light of widespread practice of social distancing, the law provides for two alternatives to voting in person: First, the law allows any person taking precaution related to COVID-19 to vote by absentee ballot. All applications for an absentee ballot must be received by the town clerk before noon on Monday, June 22, the last business day before the

election. Any person may apply for an absentee ballot by sending a signed request to the town clerk's office or filling out the absentee ballot application available from the towns website. Second, the law provides for early voting by mail. All applications for early voting ballots must be received before noon the last business day before the election, Monday, June 22. Any person may obtain an early voting ballot by sending a signed request to the town clerk's office or by filling out and returning the early voting application available from the town website. All ballots must be received by the town clerk before the polls close 8 p.m. on election day, June 23.

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# SPORTS

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## Pioneers seniors were ready to take the field

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

PALMER – The Pathfinder Regional High School baseball team had some great talent returning to the lineup this spring. The Pioneers unfortunately did not get an opportunity to show what they had this season.

Coach Phillip Gallo had lots of compliments for his players as he reflected on the season not happening this year.

Isaiha Perez would have been at second once again this year after being tabbed for action last year as a junior. He also was an effective pitcher.

“Isaiha was pressed into being our starting catcher his junior year,” said Gallo. “Even though it was not his natural position he gutted it out for us. Once our starting catcher was able to return Isaiha took over the starting spot at second base. He was exceptional defensively and after starting the season 2-for-24 he raised his average to near .300 by seasons end. Isaiha also pitched very effectively towards the end of the season and was likely to be an effective weapon in our bullpen had we played in 2020.”

Hunter Nicolson had a great season last year and was with the varsity for three years as a starting outfielder. “Hunter was phenomenal defensively in center and after struggling against varsity pitching his sophomore year he exploded his junior year spending much of the season with an average above .400 earning All-Western Mass. honorable mention in 2019,” said Gallo. “Hunter always played hard and never left the field with a clean uniform.”

Dylan Piscioner was the ace of



Mathias Wilke fields a grounder on the run for Pathfinder during action last year.

the pitching staff as a first-year varsity player last year.

“Dylan loves the game and is one of the more coachable players I had,” said Gallo. “He provided a big bat as our designated hitter his junior year and was poised to be a great asset and leader to our team as a senior.”

Nate Dubois was a middle infielder for most of his life and stepped up to play first base for the Pioneers. Gallo said he took to the position well.

“Nate stepped up and became a great defensive first baseman where he started all 20 games for us his junior year,” said Gallo. “Nate had a smooth left handed swing that really came around at the end of his

junior year and was slated to be the No. 2 hitter in our lineup in 2020.”

Justin Katawicz saw limited varsity action as a pitcher last year and was slated to start in the outfield.

“He was competing to be our starting right fielder in 2020 and would have also been one of our relief pitchers,” said Gallo.

Mathias Wilke made varsity as a junior. He took over at shortstop and had a great glove at the position.

“Mathias earned All-Western Mass. second team honors his junior year,” said Gallo. “Mathias was also an effective weapon on the mound who had a great curveball. Mathias was one of those players you love to have on your team.”



Catcher Isaiha Perez dives for the tag at the plate.

File photos



Nathan Dubois stretches to try and get the out at first base.



Dylan Piscioner hurls for the Pioneers against Granby last season.

## Modified series to return July 4

SEEKONK, Mass. -- Tri Track Open Modified Series officials announced on Tuesday the 2020 season opener will take place at Monadnock Speedway on Saturday, July 4. The series will celebrate Independence Day with the first event of the season after a two-month delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tri Track has developed a list of strict guidelines to ensure the safety of race teams, drivers, staff and fans. Guidance provided by the state of New Hampshire and local officials, along with CDC recommendations were all used to come up with best practices.

Race teams will receive an email from series officials with a full list of guidelines and event information and are encouraged to contact series officials with questions.

Teams will be restricted to 10 crew members per car, including the driver and car owner, and face coverings are strongly encouraged when social distancing is not possible. Tri track officials will use face coverings. Social distancing protocols will be in place and teams are asked not to enter another competitors pit stall to avoid groups larger than 10.

Fans are allowed at the track due to guidance provided by the state

of New Hampshire that allows the track to operate at 50 percent of capacity.

The Tri Track Open Modified Series management realizes that some of the guidelines being imposed are not ideal, but we are working to ensure that the health and safety of competitors, team members, officials, employees and fans is paramount at this time.

“It’s been a long wait to get the season rolling and we’re so happy we are getting back to the track,” Wayne Darling, Managing Partner of the Tri Track Open Modified Series, said. “We are expecting a stout entry list for this event and look forward to getting our season back on track, while making sure we keep everyone safe.”

Names like defending series champion Ronnie Williams, who drives for veteran Gary Casella, former champion Matt Hirschman, nicknamed ‘Money Matt’ and multiple-time series winners Ron Silk and Chase Dowling are expected to be in the list of favorites.

Don’t count out drivers like Matt Swanson, Woody Pitkat, Tommy Barrett, and Mike Willis, among others. The Tri Track Open Modified Series is known for a

## Adult league starts practice

REGION – With Phase 2 of the re-opening plan underway, some adult leagues have started practicing, hoping the timeline will allow games to begin playing shortly after June 30. The Valley Wheel League is currently accepting new players with a 5 to 10 game season planned, depending on how well the re-opening plan goes. See related article for contact information for the league.



Bryan Forest fields a ground ball during a Valley Wheel game last season. The league has started practicing this week.



The Angels’ Gary Perreault, a graduate of Chicopee Comp, makes a throw to first. The league features players from all over the region.



The Valley Wheel League is looking for new players and tryouts are open now.



## Senior athletes being featured

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

The Turley Publications sports department is looking to honor the senior athletes who have had their spring seasons cancelled by the coronavirus pandemic.

The senior features have already started rolling out, but if you have not seen your senior featured, we encouraged you to send photos and info on your son or daughter, and encourage you to contact their coach to speak with us.

We have reached out to spring coaches and athletic directors, but are still trying to collect info

on every team that would have been involved in this spring’s season.

We hope to also publish action photos of seniors from previous seasons, though parents and coaches are encouraged to send photos of seniors they would like to see published in the upcoming editions of the paper.

All submissions can be made to Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at sports@turley.com. In the subject line, please identify the school and sport you are writing in about. Senior athletes are also encouraged to write in to talk about the season that wasn’t.

## Schedule released for college tip-off tourney announced

UNCASVILLE, Conn. – The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame announced today the field of teams and brackets for the 2020 Tip-Off Tournament. The annual NCAA men’s exempt tournament sponsored by the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference will take place Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22 at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut. Eight schools will compete in two four-team brackets with campus round games leading up to the Mohegan

Sun Arena contests.

Teams scheduled to participate in this year’s Tip-Off Tournament are: University of Central Florida (American Athletic), Marquette University (Big East), University of Minnesota (Big 10), University of Rhode Island (Atlantic 10), University at Albany (America East), Lehigh University (Patriot League), Long Island University (Northeast), and Quinnipiac University (Metro Atlantic).

“The Hall of Fame Tip-Off Tournament has proven to be one

of the best early season events in the country, offering great competition and an outstanding venue,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Basketball Hall of Fame. “We look forward to hosting this year’s field of teams and their fans at beautiful Mohegan Sun.”

The Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference will continue to serve as the host conference for the annual event. The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame is also proud to continue its relationship with Learfield IMG

College for sponsorship representation of its portfolio of collegiate events.

Ticket information, game times and television broadcast details and will be released at a later date. As the health and safety of the athletes, fans and staff is of the utmost importance, the Basketball Hall of Fame will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely in the coming months and provide updates as needed. For more information, please visit www.halloffametiportoff.com.



# Education

## Fitchburg State online information session

FITCHBURG – Fitchburg State University’s School of Graduate, Online and Continuing Education will host an online information session about its forensic nursing program at 1 p.m. Tuesday, June 30. The session is free.

The Master of Science in Nursing Degree Program is designed for registered nurses, who wish to pursue advanced leadership positions in the community and the health care system. The graduate is prepared to contribute to the development of nursing science, to the improvement of health care, and to pursue doctoral study. The program is offered completely online.

Fitchburg State’s online information sessions give prospective students the opportunity to engage with the program chair, advisor, and admissions counselor while learning more about their program of interest. The question and answer format allows prospective students to submit questions that will be answered live.

To learn more or to register, people may visit <https://admissions.fitchburgstate.edu/register/ForensicNursingOIS>.

## Carly Williams graduates from Fairfield University

FAIRFIELD, CONN. – Fairfield University announced that Carly H. Williams of Hubbardston graduated from Fairfield University, May 2020.

At the time of graduation, a student must have earned a minimum of 120 credits and completed at least 38 three- or four-credit courses, depending on the course of study and have an overall grade point average of 2.0 or better at the conclusion of the senior year.

## MWCC inducts new members to International Honor Society Phi Theta Kappa on May 8

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College’s (MWCC) Phi Delta Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa international honor society inducted new members in a virtual ceremony on May 8, 2020.

Founded in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) recognizes and encourages the academic achievement of two-year college students and provides opportunities for personal, academic and professional growth through participation in honors, leadership, service and fellowship programming. Nearly 3 million members have been inducted since PTK’s founding with over 1,285 chapters worldwide.

Phi Delta Chapter President Sidney Myers, reflected on his time as a member of PTK, “This honor society has brought me much more than scholarships, it brought me friendship and opportunities. It is more than a society; it is a family.”

“Your outstanding personal and academic achievements are definitely worthy of celebration and

you have all just taken the first step into an amazing community,” stated Fagan Forhan, PTK advisor, and MWCC Assistant Dean of K-12 Partnerships and Civic Engagement.

Tami Morin, Phi Theta Kappa Advisor, Access & Transitions Office led inductees in the Phi Theta Kappa Oath.

Local inductees were: Charlotte Hobby of Hubbardston, Christine Jean of Rutland, Faith Marcinkiewicz of Hubbardston, Robert Milkman of Barre and Jonathan Raskett of Hardwick.

Other inductees were Anna Allen of Westminster, Tara Appleton of Keene, N.H., Majdoline Baker of Ashburnham, Shantell Beato of Leominster, Brandy Benda of Fitchburg, Hannah Bennett of Phillipston, Beau Bergeron of Fitchburg, Curtis Booker of Hyde Park, Patty Brine of Ayer, Gina Carrico of Worcester, Holly Chabot of Leominster, Bethany Chase of Worcester, Cassandra Conrad of

Gardner, Rita De Araujo of Milford, Maya Douglas of Gardner, Sarah Duodu of Leominster, Madison Faneuf of Athol, Jennifer Gariepy of Orange, Melissa Gaudet of Leominster, Marcela Guzman of Gardner, Marissa Hirakawa of Northborough, Emily Jacob of Leominster, Natalie Johnson of Templeton, Christopher Jones of Shirley, Meggin Kelly of Ashburnham, Amy Krysiak of Leominster, Patricia Kwarteng of Leominster, Li Labarge of Leominster, Cheryl Landry of Ashburnham, Paige Landry of Gardner, Ricki Laplante of Winchendon, Hannah Levesque of Gardner, Emily Lindfors of Holden, Karen Livesay of Fitchburg, Stephanie Lopez Torre of Fitchburg, Donna Lozeau of Leominster, Andrea Lystila of Winchendon, Amy Mabardy of Lancaster, Alice Maina of Leominster, Neyda Maldonado of Fitchburg, John Maron of Bolton, Heather Maxwell of Fitchburg,

Taylor McLellan of Pepperell, Amy Meunier of Fitchburg, Brianna O’Reilly of Townsend, Lydia Palmer of Ashby, Josephine Parillo ofPhillipston, Naisha Paulino of Lowell, Tafadzwa Payne of Fitchburg, Cora Poole of Worcester, Madison Pratt of Orange, Joshua Reynolds of Fitchburg, Mia Reynolds of Lunenburg, Emily Rio of East Brookfield, Vanessa Roberto of Leominster, Denise Seminoff of Leominster, Faith Sevidzem of Fitchburg, Elizabeth Stamper of Winchendon, Samantha Stanikmas of Charlton, Ka Lia Thao of Fitchburg, Danielle Thomas of Leominster, Emily Thomas of Rindge, N.H., Lowell Thomas of Ayer, Katelyn Thurlow of Gardner, Heather Tibbals of Hudson, Alexander Townsend of Stow, Rebecca Verhulst of Lunenburg, Stephanie White of Lunenburg, Kaitlyn Winsper of Pepperell and Jacqueline Wooster of New Ipswich, N.H.

## QCC announces dean and merit lists

WORCESTER – Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) released its spring 2020 semester dean and merit lists. A total of 578 students were named to the college’s dean’s list and 1035 students were named to the merit list.

Local students making the spring semester dean’s list were: James Bobka of Barre; Sarah Bohan of New Braintree; Skye Guertin, Jay Mason, Michelle Nguyen and David Vincent, all of North Brookfield and Jacob Brower, Alissa Carlson, Katherine-Rose Dunn, William Fassett, Mohamed Fawal, Jessica Jardine, Jordan Katinas, Deirdre Meagher, Brian Mele, Delores Sherman, Matthew Trudeau, Julia Watson, Lauren Wiinikka and Tanner Willman, all of Rutland.

Local students making the spring semester merit list: were: Paige McWilliams and Isaac Rosario, both of Barre; Shari Martel of Hardwick; Nicholas Petricca of Hubbardston; Rachel Chisholm of New Braintree; Meghan Brill, Harold Burroughs, Cassandra Chouinard, Kelsie Fantasia, Melissa Fontaine, Leo Gauthier, Jessica Jesky, Jordan Olson and Stephanie Ranellone, all of North Brookfield; Maria Elaina Chionchio and John Martel, both of Oakham; Matthew Murphy, Kaylee Quist and Mark Sadowski, all of Rutland and Brianna Mayberry of South Barre.

Students named to the dean’s list must have a Quality Point Average (QPA) of 3.5 or higher and have earned 12 or more credits in a given semester. Students named to the merit list must have a QPA of 3.5 or higher and have earned 6 or more credits in a given semester, but fewer than 12 credits.

For more information, people may contact Josh Martin, director of institutional communications at 508-854-7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu).

## Colleges announce Dean's Lists

### Endicott College announces dean’s list

BEVERLY – Endicott College, the first college in the U.S. to require internships of its students, is announces its spring 2020 dean’s list students.

The following local students making dean’s list are: Kylie Orszulak of Barre, a liberal studies/education major and daughter of Jamie Orszulak and Joe Orszulak; Gonzalo Arbiza of Hubbardston, a biology/bio-technology major and son of Karina Arbiza and Daniel Arbiza; Macayla Loescher, a business management major and daughter of KellyAnn Loescher and Max Loescher;

Jordyn Valencourt of North Brookfield, a photography major and daughter of Rebecca Valencourt and Joseph Valencourt; Allison Moore of Rutland, a sport management major and daughter of Julia Moore and Brian Moore; Zachary Nadeau of Rutland, a criminal justice major and son

of Rebecca Nadeau and Elliott Nadeau and Alexis Novak of Rutland, a liberal studies/education major and daughter of Susan Novak and Jon Novak.

In order to qualify for the dean’s list, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no letter grade below “C,” have no withdrawal grades and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester.

### Becker College announces dean’s list for spring 2020 semester

WORCESTER/LEICESTER – Becker College announced the dean’s list for the spring 2020 semester.

Local students included: Kylie Bulger of North Brookfield an equine studies major; Elizabeth Jardine of Rutland, a nursing major; Garrett Sheridan of Barre, an interactive media design, game development and programming concentration major; Jordan Viess

of Ware, a veterinary science, veterinary technology concentration major and Sarah Ware of Oakham, a nursing major.

The dean’s list recognizes all full-time students (24 or more credit hours earned for the academic year; 12 minimum each semester September through May, whose term grade point average is 3.50 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete (I) or withdrawal/failing (WF) grades.

### Anthony Pellegrino makes dean’s honor roll

HAYS, KANSAS – Anthony Pellegrino of New Braintree was named to the dean’s honor roll at Fort Hays State University for the spring 2020 semester. Pellegrino is a sophomore majoring in philosophy.

The dean’s honor roll includes undergraduate students only. To be eligible, students must have completed 12 or more credit hours and have a minimum grade-point

average of 3.60 for the semester.

### UVM announces dean’s list

BURLINGTON, VT — Mary Jean Lapierre of Hubbardston and Erika Convery of Rutland were named to the University of Vermont’s spring dean’s list. To be named to the dean’s list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

### Connecticut College announces dean’s list

NEW LONDON, CONN. — Connecticut College announced the dean’s list for the 2020 spring semester. Local students making the spring semester dean’s list included: Miya Cohen, Class of 2020 and economics and Taeva Cohen, Class of 2021 and biological sciences major, both of Hubbardston.

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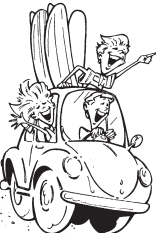
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### NBHS GRADUATION, continued from page 1

of the seniors have known each other since kindergarten and Schultz encouraged them to create a dynamic future, find themselves and to trust the process. “There is so much outside of this tiny town waiting for us,” she said. While the future can seem scary for the graduating seniors, Schultz said she was “grateful” to know everyone at the high school. “From the bottom of my heart, I wish you the best in your futures,” she said.

Lyndsey Schimmelpennigh, the fourth-ranked scholar, was one of the school’s senior speakers. Her sense of humor and sentimentality was demonstrated throughout her speech as she recalled some of the Class of 2020’s inside jokes and fondest memories. “Disney completely lied to us, that wasn’t like High School Musical at all,” she joked.

Schimmelpennigh described the anxiety that comes with the first day of being a freshman in high school to figuring out your locker and classes to falling into a comfortable routine over the course of four years. Because most high school students also attended elementary school together, they have formed incredible bonds that cannot be broken. “We have spent 83.3 percent of our lives together, yes I calculated that,” she said. From funny fundraisers such as the Chicken Petting

Zoo to laughs with guidance counselors, Schimmelpennigh described a “unique” class filled with fun and friendships. “I’ve known our class was different from the first day, we will go out and make a difference,” she said.

Gabrielle Cournoyer, third-ranked scholar, also spoke at the ceremony. Cournoyer spoke about the familiarity that came with being a member of North Brookfield High School and how that contrasts with the unknown that comes after graduation. She explained that the North Brookfield school system had been an instrumental part of their lives. “We’ve all had our ups and downs here,” she said. Focusing on getting good grades for college and “high school drama” were parts of their daily life. However, now the class was walking toward their future whether in a new career, a college degree, or military service. “So, Class of 2020, do not be nervous about the unknown, those challenges could blossom into the best opportunities of your life,” Cournoyer said.

Two brothers concluded the senior speakers. Nathan Norrie, Salutatorian, took the stage with his brother Alec Norrie, valedictorian. Nathan spoke about how accepting the students and staff were at North Brookfield High School. He said that while leaving the small school and experiencing the world may seem scary, he believes, “I see no point in fearing the future,

### RACING, continued from page 7

talent-laden field including some of the top modified drivers in the entire Northeast region.

Monadnock’s event will pay \$6,000 to win, \$3,250 for second and \$2,600 for third. All drivers that qualify for the feature race will take home at least a \$1,000 prize. There have been no changes made to the purse structure following the COVID-19 pandemic.

New for 2020, the Pepsi Challenge begins with heat and consi races paying the winner. Courtesy of Pepsi, each heat and consi will pay \$300 to win, giving drivers every extra incentive to

step on the loud pedal during the qualifying races.

Registration for Monadnock remains open at \$150 for just the one event, or \$450 for the entire season. The \$450 amount is only in place for teams that register by the time of entry into Monadnock. Teams that have already registered do not need to register again. Those who have not must visit [tritrack-modifieds.com](http://tritrack-modifieds.com) and the team info tab to fill out their registration.

Teams will be asked to contact Michelle at the Monadnock track office at 603-239-4067 with their car number and list of 10 people entering on their crew.

sitting in front of this parking lot, it makes you feel that things have to get better from here.” He is hopeful for the future even though he must move away from his family and friends to attend college. He described himself as the “annoying” kid and said, “If you say I was not, then you are lying.” However, he thanked his friends for accepting him as he is and not forcing him to change. Lastly, he thanked his family for supporting him and his brother for pushing him to be better. “There is like a zero percent chance I would be up here if I did not try to match all the hard work you did in classes,” Nathan said. Alec Norrie replied to his brother, “Right back at you brother. Despite our differences, I love you man and I always have your back no matter what. And to the entire Class of 2020, we did it!”

Hynek said to the class, “ I don’t think I’ve ever been more impressed in a short amount of time than I am right now.” He thanked the students for welcoming him into the “North Brookfield family.” Hynek said he would “break with tradition” by offering two simple words of advice. The first piece of advice was to “never give up” while the second was “no excuses. You control your future as long as you never give up and you never make excuses along the way.”

Superintendent Richard Lind took the stage to celebrate the Class of 2020.

If a team does not have 10 people, just be ready to provide the people you have planning on attending. Teams can pre-order tires at Hoosier Tire East beginning immediately by calling Dan at 860-646-9646.

The schedule for the day includes pits opening at 9 a.m., practice starting at 12 p.m., heats starting at 4 p.m. and the feature to follow qualifying. Support divisions will be announced soon. There will be no drivers meeting on race day – teams will be provided a handout with updated race procedures upon entry.

Series officials anticipate the remainder of the 2020 schedule

He explained that as kids in elementary school, the seniors read picture books to learn life lessons, so Lind decided to do the same as they graduated high school. He read “A Perfectly Messed Up Book” by Patrick McDonald and invited the students and families to read along on their phones. According to him, the book was the perfect metaphor for the ceremony since it was “not the way we envisioned it.”

The pandemic eliminated typical senior milestones like prom, graduation parties and senior events. “It was not perfect, but it was fine. It was not perfect, but you got through it,” he reassured the class while referring to the book and the unconventional graduation ceremony. “Life is a series of challenges.”

His son graduated this year, so he said he understood the disappointment of not celebrating such an important moment. However, he was proud of the North Brookfield students for rising to the challenge because according to Lind, how we respond to life’s challenges is what determines whether we have a good life.

As the graduates left the ceremony, those in their cars filled the air with car horns, bells, whistles, and cheers. The decorated vehicles filled with graduates filtered out of the school parking lot and into a waiting parade as they celebrated the end of their unusual senior year with the rest of North Brookfield.

will remain in place. A stop at Star Speedway on Saturday, July 25, is scheduled for the annual SBM 125, followed by another date at Monadnock on August 15. Seekonk Speedway’s rescheduled Open Wheel Wednesday for August 26 and the Haunted Hundred on October 24 will wrap the schedule.

For more information on Monadnock Speedway, visit the track at [monadnockspeedway.com](http://monadnockspeedway.com). For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit [tritrackmodifieds.com](http://tritrackmodifieds.com) and follow the series on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for the latest updates.

The Barre Gazette is on Facebook



# Church News

## Local pastors offer sermons

*Note:* The Barre Gazette staff reached out to area churches if they would provide sermons during the Coronavirus pandemic. Any pastor, priest or rabbi wishing to participate may email either barrenews@turley.com or edowner@turley.com.

### Father's Day Reflections

Happy Father's Day! This coming Sunday we celebrate the men in our lives who serve as fathers, biologically, adoptively and spiritually. It is our joy to honor you as unique creations that reveal the particular genius and nature of the Lord!

For those who may not know, my wife and I are foster parents. I will be the first to say that my experiences as a foster dad are—in many ways—dissimilar to the typical father. Whereas you may have two or three children, dozens may pass through our home. Whereas you may have months to prepare to receive a child, we may have mere hours. Whereas you are likely to forecast the gender and ethnicity of your little one, we have more of a Forrest Gump experience: i.e., life is like a box of chocolates and “you never know what you're gonna get.”

I have chosen to touch upon three areas of “perceived” dissimilarity.

#### 1) Serving as a Foster Father Requires a Sense of Stewardship

As a foster father, I am continually reminded that the child in my care is not mine. Rather, I am a manager and caretaker of that which belongs to another. Despite what my heart feels in terms of bondedness, the child in our home is never “ours.” Rather, they belong to a set of biological parents and are wards of the state.

It is my role to house, feed, dress, comfort, instruct and love a child who in no way belongs to me with the energy and diligence of a traditional parent. Failing to do so will result in severe penalty and the judgment of the State and rightly so!

#### 2) Serving as a Foster Father Requires a Willingness to Deal with Traumatization

There is a universal truth that connects every child in the system. Namely, they have all been traumatized (to varying degrees). Perhaps their trauma is the pain of having been removed from their family and home. Perhaps it was neglect, abuse or unspeakable cruelty. But every child in DCF—i.e., approximately 11,000 children in MA alone—are victimized and will have to navigate the baggage of their parents' ill choices.

This is a reality that every foster parent must recognize and address. Foster parents work to heal the pain through love, compassion, consistent nurture, and beyond. They work—we work—to provide an environment wherein children can thrive. Moreover, foster parents work to instruct “their” placements concerning how to handle the baggage they have been made to carry.

#### 3) Foster Parents Live with a Heightened Awareness Concerning Time

Since the goal of DCF is primarily reunification, foster parents realize that the children placed in their care will likely go home at some point. We have but a limited amount of time, and we realize that time is the most precious of commodities.

You only have so much time to impact and influence those in your care.

You only have so much time to make an impression in the wet cement of their heart.

You only have so much time to repair and establish a foundation suitable for life and living.

Every experienced foster parent knows the pain of having to give a child back. They know what it is like to mark down the days until reunification takes place. They note the last time they will give their little one a hug, read a favorite story, share a meal, put them to bed, etc. One day they are with you and the next they are out of reach.

It is a hard thing to consider the finality of time.

It is painful to consider the “lasts” you experience in the moment.

It is brutal to wish for more time—knowing that such a prayer is not to be answered.

But one gains perspective and wisdom in having to utilize time so strategically.

As I transition, you may well wonder to yourself, “Why would anyone become a foster parent?”

I understand this sentiment, being the first to say it's not for everyone. But for those who are willing to open their hearts and homes, it is the grandest adventure and rewarding beyond what words can communicate. For my wife and me it has been rewarding and our faith teaches us that God will honor this loving service:

**Matthew 25:40 (NIV)**

...Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

**Hebrews 6:10**

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

You may also be saying to yourself, “I am glad that the things Pastor James is touching upon are not applicable to my experience as a father or as a parent!” But I am not sure this is the case. Consider the following quite carefully!

#### 1) Stewardship

Serving as a foster parent requires an awareness of stewardship (i.e., you are the custodian of a child that belongs to another). But is this really that much different for those of you with biological or adoptive children? Not really...

Ultimately, you serve as the manager and caretaker of a child that belongs to the Lord. It is a mistake to think of your child as “your child” in a possessive sense. Despite what your heart feels in terms of bondedness, your son and your daughter are always His.

**Psalms 24:1a**

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it...

You operate as one who is called upon to house, feed, dress, nurture, comfort and instruct a child who has been entrusted to you. What a sacred privilege and obligation! Failure to do so will be met with penalty and the judgment of an authority far greater than the State. Faithfully cultivate the children that God has placed in your charge, knowing that one day we shall all be called to account (cf. Matthew 25:14-30).

I wonder how many would operate as better parents if they understood their ultimate accountability.

#### 2) Traumatization

Serving as a foster parent requires the willingness to receive, love and work with children who have been traumatized. That is, kids who suffer the ill effects of the choices of those who came before. But is this really any different for those of you with biological or adoptive parents? Not really...

Every child born into every family suffers the ill effects of the worst possible dead-beat dad in Adam. Biblically speaking (and this is an expansive theological topic), every member of the race of Adam inherits both guilt and a nature inclined unto sin.

Don't believe me that children are born with sinful tendencies? Ask yourself, “Did I have to teach my son or daughter how to lie, mistreat their sibling or deflect blame OR did it come to them naturally?” What happens if you tell your child not to touch the proverbial “big red button”? I think you know the answer!

Like it or not, our little ones carry spiritual baggage from our fallen progenitor, Adam. As parents, our only recourse is to point them to the One who provides remedy for that which ails us: Jesus Christ. Through Christ we find pardon for our sinfulness and a new heart capable of serving Him. Consider the following:

**1 John 1:8-9**

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

**Ezekiel 36:26-27**

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Parents must recognize these spiritual realities and address them accordingly. Parents must work to point children unto Christ who cares for them. They must also work to model an example of spiritual health, helping children along in their own journey of faith. This establishes an environment wherein kids can flourish! This process is not quick or easy, but it proves impacting.

**Proverbs 22:6**

6 Train up a child in the way he should go,

And when he is old he will not depart from it.

#### 3) Time

Functioning as a foster parent requires an acute sense of time. There is only so much time to positively impact a child. But is it not also the case for biological and adoptive parents?

Of course, you may have decades versus weeks or months, but everything that has a beginning has an end. Time is limited and is, therefore, precious. Heed the insight of the following texts:

**James 4:14**

14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

**Psalms 90:12**

12 Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

**Ephesians 5:15-17**

15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

Maximize the moments you share with your children (regardless of their age). Whether they are young or old, invest yourself into them! Once your time is gone, it is gone forever.

In the end, foster fathers like me must recognize the reality of our stewardship, commit to loving a child traumatized by life, and maximize the time we have to inform and impact—and we are the better for it! So are the children we serve. I posit that these principles are true for you as well! May the Lord use these remarks to positively impact your parental experience.

Happy Father's Day and may the Lord truly bless each of you! Should you wish to connect or learn more about the ministries we offer, check us out online at [www.NewLifeBarre.org](http://www.NewLifeBarre.org). We would love to hear from or see you soon!

**Pastor James Foley**

*New Life Assembly of God  
South Barre*

### Sunday, June 14—Second Sunday After Pentecost~

“When He saw the crowds,  
He had compassion on them ...”

**Scripture Reading:**

*Matthew 9 verse 35-38  
and 10 verse 8-23*

#### I. Introduction:

We all have experiences of being in crowds, right? In the malls, on the beaches, sports events, and many other situations. We also know what it feels like to have compassion when it comes to our children and family and loved ones. We know what it means to care for those close to us, and those who are in need.

#### II. Compassion in the message and ministry of Jesus

The concept of Jesus' compassion can best be understood in the commandment, “Love God and neighbor as yourself”. His life is all about love for God and neighbor. His message about compassion can be seen in some of the parables He told His disciples and those who challenged Him, such as the lawyer in the story of the Good Samaritan, who was instructed to go and be the good neighbor to the one who is wounded like the wounded man on the road to Jericho. But more, Jesus' compassion can especially be seen in the Sermon of the Mount, where He highlights the suffering of those who are being dismissed as unimportant, and then He tells them how they will be vindicated. They must regard themselves as blessed, or happy because their cries, which are real, are being heard, and their circumstances will be changed. They will be restored. Those who mourn, will be comforted, those who are humble, and not arrogant, are blessed, those who hunger for righteousness, what is right and just, will receive it. In there He sees the pain and suffering and gives the promise of righteousness and change and transformation of their circumstances.

#### III. When Jesus saw the crowds, He had compassion on them.

In our Matthew passage Jesus is sending His disciples out for a specific mission. They were to speak about the Kingdom of heaven, and to make disciples of those in Israel first. They would be sent out to other nations later, as we learned last week. The background to that

mission we find in verses 35 – 37, when Jesus noticed something in the crowds who were following Him. We know that He always had crowds following Him throughout His ministry on earth. He was always sensitive to anyone in need, anyone who would touch Him, and then He would respond by doing a miracle, healing them. Time and time again He would be filled with emotion, and that emotion would prompt the kind of action needed that would change the lives of people. So, here in Matthew He saw something in the crowds that prompted Him to have compassion on them. They were harassed and helpless, says one commentary. Additional research of the text talks about them being oppressed, exhausted, and that they had a lack of direction. They were like sheep without a shepherd.

When He saw them in their distress, verse 36 says, He had compassion on them. The best translation I could find was that “His heart went out” to them. He was filled with an emotion so strong that He was captivated by what He saw. They needed help. He then tells His disciples that the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. The harvest was this crowd of people in distress, oppressed and helpless. They needed help, they needed leaders, shepherds who would take care of them. There are not enough workers. Pray, He says, to God to send out the right people to go into the crowds and bring them in, take care of them.

#### IV. The Mission of the Disciples

Jesus did not hesitate after He saw this crowd in distress. He called His disciples to Him in the first few verses in chapter 10, and gave them the authority to heal the sick, raise the dead, drive out demons and much more. They will be empowered to do what He did, and they will go out into the villages and bring about a message of hope and change.

They were to travel light, go into the homes of people and bring them peace. They need to know that this divine message would not be received well by everyone, because of the content of it. Love God and your neighbor as yourself, and elsewhere in Matthew Jesus says, I love justice, mercy, and faithfulness, and in another passage, I love mercy, not sacrifice. It is not an easy message to tell those who oppressed these same crowds who followed Jesus. It was a mission fraught with danger. They will speak to ordinary people, as well as governors and Kings and Gentiles and give testimony about Him, the works He did, His message, and they will have to defend what they were talking about. They will be hated and persecuted, because the message they would bring is about Him and the values He wanted to bestow on this world, the values of compassion and love and justice and mercy. They would go against the leaders of the day who may not have the same compassion as Jesus, and the change He wanted to see for the people and these crowds in distress. What a task, what a challenge!

#### V. We too have crowds today, do we not...?

I do not have to tell you that we have crowds all over the country and the world today, right? These are crowds with messages of pain, distress and anger, crowds with needs that need to be heard and met. We switch on the TV, or read the newspapers, go on-line and there are the crowds. We cannot ignore them. The gruesome death of George Floyd, a black man, by a white police officer, and the deaths of many others have brought crowds of people into the streets, filled with so much emotion. That kind of emotion is deep, and it needs to come out somehow. I need to say, that we all would agree and acknowledge that there are good police officers who care for us, and who care for the work they are called to do. It is also true, we see, that what happened to George Floyd has challenged many police departments across the country to re-evaluate their policies and practices, which in turn is creating its own tensions, which need to be addressed as well.

I too, was part of crowds in South Africa during apartheid, when

**See SERMONS,  
page 10**

# Obituaries

## DEATH NOTICES

**Kowalczyk, Stanley J.**

Died June 7, 2020

Private service at the convenience of the family  
Miles Funeral Home

**O'Donnell, Charles W., Jr.**

Died June 9, 2020

Celebration of Life  
at a later date

### Stanley Joseph Kowalczyk, 71

BARRE – Stanley Joseph Kowalczyk, age 71, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on Sunday, June 7, 2020. Born in Cicory, Poland, he was the son of Aleksander and Marijanna (Nosek) Kowalczyk.



Stanley spent most of his childhood in rural Poland and immigrated with his family to Worcester at age 11. He graduated from St. Mary's Catholic School and soon after, met the love of his life, Diane. He then served in the U.S. Navy. In 1975, Stanley and Diane moved to Barre where the two lived and raised their family.

Stanley spent many years working as a supervisor for Mercury Wire and at different times owned two businesses: Natural Friends, a plant store in Worcester and co-owned Dean Liquors in Barre.

Stanley had a deep bond with nature and enjoyed watching the wildlife in his backyard and woods around his home. During his time here, he could be found searching the forest floor for mushrooms, tending his bee hives, taking care of his livestock and living his peaceful life in his yard and garden. Additionally, he had many hobbies, including antiques, coins, stamps, fishing and card games. He was a member of the Barre Rod and Gun Club, where he could be found every Friday night playing poker with his friends. One

of Stanley's proudest moments was winning first place in a poker fundraiser in 2011 for Why Me, a non-profit organization providing love and support to children and their families fighting cancer. Above all, Stanley loved spending time with his family and was deeply proud of his heritage.

He will be lovingly missed by his wife of 44 years, Diane L. (Abrahamson) Kowalczyk; two daughters, Tanya Kowalczyk and her partner, Matthew Whitlow of Dartmouth, Kara Kowalczyk-Fisher and her husband, Michael of Barre; two sisters, Donna Wilson and her husband, Ernest of Worcester, Grace Masters and her husband, Daniel of Worcester; a grandchild, Aleksander Forest Kowalczyk-Fisher and several nephews and nieces as well as many relatives in Poland. Stanley was predeceased by his parents and brother, John Kowalczyk.

Stanley is remembered as a hard working provider devoted to helping his family and friends, a man of honesty and integrity, and someone that was content and at peace with his life and the way he lived it.

A private service will be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Why Me Inc., 1152 Pleasant St., Worcester, MA 01602. Funeral arrangements are under the care of Miles Funeral Home, 1158 Main St., Holden. [www.milesfuneralhome.com](http://www.milesfuneralhome.com)

### Charles W. “Chuck” O’Donnell Jr., 70

NOBLE, OKLA. — Charles W. O'Donnell Jr., “Chuck” to his friends, left this world guided by a glorious sunrise on June 9, 2020. He was born in Ware, Massachusetts on Aug. 12, 1949 to Phyllis (Shepardson)



and Charles W. O'Donnell Sr. He was the oldest son of 10 children raised in Barre, Massachusetts. His family had very little money, but measured their wealth in Love, Family and Friendship, which meant in their eyes they were rich beyond measure.

On Feb. 11, 1968 he married the love of his life, Gladys Elaine Merchant. He loved her with every beat of his heart and remained at her side for the remaining 52 years of his life. Together they raised two children, Brian O'Donnell and Jennifer (O'Donnell) Powell.

Chuck proudly served in the U.S. Navy for 10 years and fought for his country in the Vietnam War. Chuck and Gladys moved to Noble, Oklahoma in 1977 where they lived for the remainder of their life. Brian and Jennifer each married and added three grandchildren and one great-grandchild to the family. In 2018 Chuck was lucky enough to be united with a

daughter, he had never known existed, Bonnie Robinson of Petersham and his family grew by a daughter, four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. In Chuck's eyes, he was blessed with a wonderful life full of love and laughter with family and friends. He laughed and joked with anyone and everyone. In this way, he truly touched and blessed everyone he met and has left a legacy that will last way beyond his death.

He was preceded in death by both parents and two brothers, Phillip and Kenneth O'Donnell. He is survived by his wife, Gladys O'Donnell; three sisters: Deborah Brearley, Phyllis Marshall and Veronica Morris; three brothers: James, William and Paul O'Donnell, as well as all of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In accordance with his wishes, in lieu of a funeral, there will be a Celebration of Life to honor his life and legacy. The Celebration of Life will be scheduled in the near future to accommodate distant relatives and allow time for COVID 19. The family requests that in lieu of flowers or gifts, please send donations to St. Jude in Chuck's name.



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# Public Safety

## Barre Police Log

<b>Sunday, May 31</b> 10:39 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Lockwood Road – Referred to Other Agency 4:28 p.m. Fire, Investigation Maple Lane – Fire Extinguished	<b>Saturday, June 6</b> 1:50 p.m. Alarm, Commercial Summer Street – Building Checked/Secured 2:03 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Tower – Information Taken	<b>Thursday, June 11</b> 3:28 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Nelson Way – No Action Required 4:28 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Nelson Way – Confirmed Misdial 7:18 a.m. Vandalism South Street – Investigated 9 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Worcester Road – Officer Spoke to Party 2:56 p.m. Disturbance, Person(s) Austin Street – Services Rendered 4:45 p.m. Parking Violation Wauwinet Road – Investigated
<b>Monday, June 11</b> 11:28 a.m. Disturbance, Motor Vehicle Hubbardston Road – Negative Contact	<b>Sunday, June 7</b> 4:06 p.m. Suspicious Activity North Brookfield Road – Officer Spoke to Party 4:40 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Riverside Cemetery – Negative Contact	<b>Friday, June 12</b> 12:30 Motor Vehicle Suspicious Worcester Road – Gone On Arrival 3:16 p.m. Lost/Disoriented Person High Street South – Located/Found 4:15 p.m. Threats Wheelwright Road – Officer Spoke to Party 5:38 p.m. Suspicious Person South Street – Negative Contact
<b>Tuesday, June 2</b> 9:32 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Varney Lane – Confirmed Misdial 7:51 p.m. Suspicious Activity Nelson Street – Officer Spoke to Party 8:38 p.m. Fire, Illegal Burn Church Lane – Fire Extinguished	<b>Monday, June 8</b> 11:02 a.m. Fraud Old Petersham Road – Officer Took Call 11:03 a.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Summer Street – Citation Issued 5:05 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Springhill Road – Confirmed Misdial 5:18 p.m. Fraud Old Dana Road – Officer Spoke to Party 5:29 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Barre Falls Dam – Transported to Hospital 6:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Suspicious South Barre Road – Area Search Negative	<b>Saturday, June 13</b> 12:30 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Unknown – Services Rendered 6 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint High Street South – Negative Contact
<b>Wednesday, June 3</b> 12:15 p.m. Disturbance, Person(s) Worcester Road – Report Filed 3:18 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Old Coldbrook Road – Officer Spoke to Party 3:35 p.m. Wires Down Sunrise Avenue – Referred to Other Agency 6:04 p.m. Fire, Appliance Fire West Street – Fire Extinguished 11:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Suspicious Old Coldbrook Road – Secured 11:53 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency North Brookfield Road – Transported to Hospital	<b>Tuesday, June 9</b> 3:25 p.m. Alarm, Residential Worcester Road – Officer Spoke to Party 4:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic Old Coldbrook Road – Negative Contact 5:41 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Coldbrook Road – Negative Contact 11:22 p.m. Open Door/Window West Street – Secured	<b>Sunday, June 14</b> 1:10 a.m. Fire, Motor Vehicle South Street – Arrest(s) Made Arrest: Dylan J. Orszulak, 24, South Barre OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Marked Lanes Violation; Speeding Rate of Speed Greater Than was Reasonable and Proper c90 \$17; Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Possess Open Container of; Vandalize Property c266 \$126A
<b>Thursday, June 4</b> 2:47 p.m. Suspicious Person Bentley Road – Negative Contact 4:05 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Coldbrook Road – Confirmed Misdial 5:25 p.m. Safety Concern Exchange Street – Officer Advised 5:30 p.m. Protest Town Wide – Services Rendered	<b>Wednesday, June 10</b> <b>10:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic South Street – Verbal Warning</b> 11:41 a.m. Fire, Medical Emergency South Street – Transported to Hospital 2:05 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Railroad Track – Negative Contact 7:08 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Cell Tower = Confirmed Misdial 10:07 p.m. Alarm, Bank Common Street – Investigated	<b>South Barre</b> <b>Thursday, June 4</b> 5:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic Wheelwright Road – Negative Contact
<b>Friday, June 5</b> 9:37 a.m. Larceny Gauthier Road – Officer Took Call 12:40 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent School Street North – Confirmed Misdial 2:16 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint South Barre Road – Negative Contact 5:30 p.m. Protest Town Wide – Services Rendered		<b>Saturday, June 6</b> 5 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Worcester Road – Confirmed Misdial
		<b>Thursday, June 11</b> 11:40 a.m. Fraud Oak Street – Officer Spoke to Party

## Oakham Police Log

<b>Monday, June 1</b> 8:43 a.m. Fraud Old Turnpike Road – Report Filed 10:14 a.m. Unattended Death South Road – Investigated 2:27 p.m. Suspicious Activity Spencer Road – Officer Advised	Officer Spoke to Party 10:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old Turnpike Road – Citation Issued	Agency
<b>Wednesday, June 3</b> 12:07 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Old Turnpike Road – Confirmed Misdial	<b>Saturday, June 6</b> 1:29 p.m. Larceny Crocker Nye Road – Officer Advised 8:42 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Tower – Confirmed Misdial	<b>Thursday, June 11</b> 3:49 p.m. Fraud Ware Corner Road – Officer Spoke to Party 9:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic North Brookfield Road – Referred to Other Agency
<b>Thursday, June 4</b> 7:24 p.m. Suspicious Person North Brookfield Road – Officer Spoke to Party	<b>Monday, June 8</b> 9:48 a.m. Animal – Bite New Braintree Road – Officer Advised 6:15 p.m. Fraud North Brookfield Road – Services Rendered	<b>Friday, June 12</b> 2:20 p.m. Property Damage Spencer Road – Officer Advised 9:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Brookfield Road – Citation Issued
<b>Friday, June 5</b> 3:39 p.m. Fraud Barre Road –	<b>Tuesday, June 9</b> 12:56 a.m. Alarm, Residential North Brookfield Road – Referred to Other	<b>Saturday, June 13</b> 7 p.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic North Brookfield Road – Negative Contact

## Rutland Police Log

<b>Sunday, May 31</b> 10:17 a.m. Fire, Smoke Investigation Nancy Drive – Fire Extinguished 10:43 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Silent Rail Trail – Information Taken 11:32 a.m. Suspicious Activity Pleasantdale Road – Information Taken 3:16 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Silent Unknown – Services Rendered	<b>Thursday, June 4</b> 11:34 a.m. Fire – Motor Vehicle East County Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal	Abandoned/Silent Miles Road – Officer Advised 10:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic Pommogussett Road – Investigated
<b>Monday, June 1</b> 1:17 p.m. Fraud Sassawanna Road – Officer Spoke to Party 3:25 p.m. Fraud – East County Road – Officer Spoke to Party 6:19 p.m. Fraud Maple Avenue – Officer Took Call 7:30 p.m. Vandalism Pommogussett Road – Officer Spoke to Party 8:50 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Silent River Road – Information Taken	<b>Friday, June 5</b> 4:54 a.m. Property Damage Barre Paxton Road – Services Rendered 8:21 a.m. Fraud Olivia Lane – Officer Spoke to Party 9:34 a.m. Fraud East Hill Road – Report Filed 12:15 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Pleasantdale Road – Citation Issued 12:15 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Pleasantdale Road – Negative Contact 1:47 p.m. Fraud Valley View Circle – Information Given 2:04 p.m. Fraud Glenwood Place – Report Filed 3:33 p.m. Fraud Brunelle Drive – Officer Advised 6:30 p.m. Disturbance – Person(s) Miles Road – Arrest(s) Made 8:56 p.m. Fraud Oakridge Drive – Information Given 10:41 p.m. Fire – Medical Emergency East County Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal 11:40 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Juniper Lane – Confirmed Misdial	<b>Tuesday, June 9</b> 8:54 a.m. Fraud Skyline Drive – Investigated 12:28 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Prospect Street – Information Taken 3:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Pommogussett Road – Report Filed 5:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic Pleasantdale Road – Negative Contact
<b>Tuesday, June 2</b> 9:49 a.m. Traffic Hazard Main Street – Property Picked Up 1:59 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Silent Unknown – Services Rendered 3:46 p.m. Fraud Haven Hill Road – Information Given 4:10 p.m. Welfare Check Maple Avenue – Transported to Hospital 9:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Suspicious Barre Paxton Road – No Action Required 9:24 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Silent Miles Road – Confirmed Misdial 10:59 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Peters Avenue – Transported to Hospital 11:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Suspicious Whitehall Road – Officer Spoke to Party 11:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Suspicious Barre Paxton Road – Officer Spoke to Party	<b>Saturday, June 6</b> 5:20 p.m. Larceny Jonathan Circle – Report Filed 6:07 p.m. Disturbance – Noise Complaint Heritage Hill Drive – Officer Advised 7:43 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Miles Road – Confirmed Misdial	<b>Wednesday, June 10</b> 1:55 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Cedar Avenue – No Action Required 5:04 a.m. Fire – Automatic Fire Alarm Grizzly Drive – Investigated 11:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic Maple Avenue – No Police Service Necessary 2:30 p.m. Fraud Brunelle Drive – Officer Advised 3:28 p.m. Watson Lane – Report Filed 6:27 p.m. Disturbance, Noise Complaint East Hill Road – Negative Contact 8:27 p.m. Fraud Skyline Drive – Report Filed 10:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Suspicious Barre Paxton Road – Officer Spoke to Party 11:59 p.m. Suspicious Person Cheryl Ann Drive – No Action Required
<b>Wednesday, June 3</b> 10:58 a.m. Fraud Turkey Hill Road – Officer Spoke to Party 12:17 p.m. Fraud Irish Lane – Officer Spoke to Party 6:32 p.m. Fire, Medical Emergency Pommogussett Road – Transported to Hospital 11:16 p.m. Suspicious Activity Michael Drive – Negative Contact	<b>Sunday, June 7</b> 11:57 a.m. Open Door/Window Woodside Avenue – Investigated 12:57 p.m. Suspicious Activity Crawford Road – Report Filed 6:01 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Pommogussett Road – No Action Required	<b>Thursday, June 11</b> 12:15 a.m. Disturbance, Noise Complaint Edson Avenue – Peace Restored 12:40 a.m. Suspicious Person Barre Paxton Road – Officer Spoke to Party
	<b>Monday, June 8</b> 7:26 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/Abandoned/Silent Miles Road – Officer Spoke to Party 8:50 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Misdial/	<b>Friday, June 12</b> 8:56 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Hit and Run Demond Pond Row – Officer Spoke to Party 9:23 a.m. Fraud Forest Avenue – Officer Took Call 1:08 p.m. Suspicious Person Main Street – Negative Contact 6:03 p.m. Wires Down Brintnal Drive – Investigated

## SERMONS, continued from page 9

we as people of color were suffering our own oppression. I too, as a seminary student joined my fellow seminarians and pastors and leaders and thousands of others into the streets to call for justice and change. So, I know what it means to be in a crowd that is in distress. I saw the change happen then when former President Nelson Mandela and others were released. I was filled with joy and relief to finally be free and have the profound experience that my skin color mattered. I saw how Madiba (endearing name for Nelson Mandela) brought us together and spoke to us and healed our wounds. I became a person whose full humanity had been restored and healed. Maybe some of you have been part of the crowds as well saying no to the injustices, and have your own stories to tell?

In my mediation and reconciliation work for the last 27 years I have worked with

thousands of people, in South Africa, in the US and around the world. I have worked with small and large groups. I have seen a lot of pain and anger and distress, and I had the opportunity to dig into the reasons why people are so angry and unhappy and in distress. They would let me in and seeing their pain would fill me with deep compassion, and that compassion would lead me to help find common ground and peace and healing. I have worked with leaders in churches and workplaces, with senior management and middle management. I have seen how unresolved issues lead to pain and anger and that things will never be the same unless we see the pain and do something about it to change it for the better for the people involved.

### VI. Jesus calls us to heal the crowds

There are all kinds of crowds, small and large. They are made up of all kinds of people with all kinds of needs and concerns, and emotions, and agendas. I am wondering what Jesus’ reaction

would be today if He were to be among the crowds? What would His message be? How would He react since He is always filled with compassion? What would He do?

As a person of color, I have been deeply affected by what has happened to George Floyd and others, and as a pastor I feel called to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, listening, seeing, and feeling the compassion myself. I feel that it is important to preach about the need for racial justice and change and healing and transformation. The pain and anger we see ultimately affect us all, as individuals and as a church, and so I ask that all of us reflect on how Jesus Christ is speaking to us and how His compassion inspires us to think and act during a time like this.

May God speak to our hearts and give us wisdom to respond in ways that will be to God’s glory and for the healing of this country and this world. Amen

**Pastor Margaret Keyser**  
*Barre Congregational Church*

# Public Notices

**BARRE PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING**  
The Barre Planning Board will hold a Virtual Public Hearing via Zoom on **Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** requested by Christopher Patrick Higgins and Ronald Carr Higgins for High Hawk Farm LLC, a Marijuana Outdoor Cultivator Facility, to be located at 101 Daunt Road, Assessors Map D, Lot 32, per the Code of the Town of Barre, Chapter140-11.2, E. (3) (b). For public access to the Hearing ID and Password will be located at [www.townofbarre.com](http://www.townofbarre.com) or [www.mytowngovernment.org](http://www.mytowngovernment.org).

All persons who wish to comment should submit comments to The Barre Planning Board at [barre-boards@townofbarre.com](mailto:barre-boards@townofbarre.com) prior to the Public Hearing.

**Douglas Martin**  
Chairman  
6/18, 6/25/2020

**Town of Barre HEARING NOTICE Pole Petition**  
Under the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 166, and any additions or amend-

ments thereto, please be advised that at their meeting of **Monday, July 6, 2020 at 6:30pm** held either at the Henry Woods Building, 40 West Street, or alternatively virtually on the Zoom platform, login information can be found on [mytown-government.org/01005](http://mytown-government.org/01005), the Barre Board of Selectmen will consider a request to give Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID and Verizon New England, Inc. permission to install (1) JO pole 54-50 on South Barre Rd. beginning at a point approximately 645 feet north of the cen-

terline of the intersection of Clem St. and South Barre Rd. and continuing approximately 20 feet in an eastern direction. National Grid to install new pole 54-50 between poles 54 and 55 South Barre Rd., Barre, MA. If you have any questions you can contact the Select Board’s Office at (978) 355-2504 x 135.

For the Board of Selectmen  
**Sandra Hood**  
**Administrative Assistant**  
6/11, 6/18/2020

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## NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue’s relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Barre Gazette, please email [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com).

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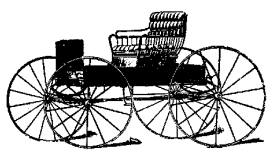
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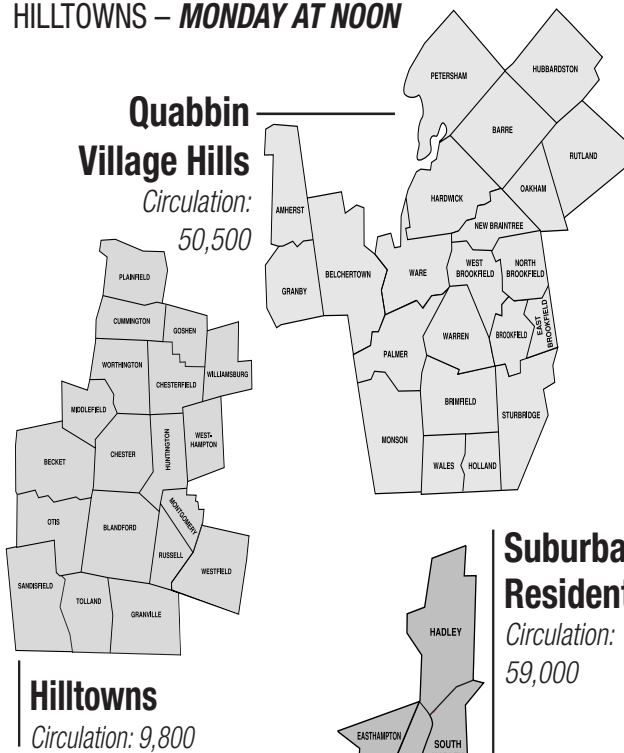
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FRIDAY AT NOON

HILLTOWNS  
MONDAY AT NOON





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Second Chance golf tournament set for July 25

EAST BROOKFIELD – Second Chance Animal Services has announced plans to host the 8th Annual Golf Tournament with a new venue and date to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions. The tournament will now be held Saturday, July 25 at Heritage Country Club in Charlton. Golfers are currently limited to 76 carts in accordance with state guidance. People living in the same household will be able to ride together.

“With our major fundraiser postponed to the fall, Second Chance is counting on the annual golf tournament to provide much needed funding for pets in need,” says development director Lindsay Doray. “We moved the fundraiser because Heritage Country Club offers more options to ensure we can safely host the event including the ability to offer outdoor dining or take-away meals for the traditional post-golf luncheon.” Doray and the venue are closely monitoring the evolving situation and have several contingency plans in place.

Several foursomes have already signed up, but Second Chance recognizes there will be some, who are not able to attend the fundraiser this year. The nonprofit is adding an online silent auction where everyone can bid on items in advance, including a pair of Adirondack chairs handmade and donated by the Hampden County Sheriff’s Office. The online auction link will be available on the website in July.


Interested golfers can purchase tickets online at [secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/](http://secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/). Single golfers and foursomes are welcome. Second Chance encourages golfers to purchase tickets early due to limited ticket availability. Mulligans are also available online or during check-in the morning of the tournament. Check in will be 7 a.m. and the tournament will commence at 7:30 a.m.

Second Chance is a nonprofit 501c3 tax exempt organization that began in 1999 in East Brookfield and relies solely on donations from grants to operate. The organization operates an adoption center in East Brookfield, Community Veterinary Hospitals in North Brookfield, Springfield, and Worcester. Second Chance helps over 40,000 pets a year through adoption, spay/neuter, veterinary care, community outreach, educational outreach programs, training, and a pet food pantry.

For more information, people visit Second Chance’s website at [www.secondchanceanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceanimals.org).


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